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INSIDE THIS ISSUE



YOUR WEEKEND
Professor Matt Porterfield's new film *Putty Hill* will be screened March 4 at The Charles Theater.
Page B2



SCIENCE
Hopkins physicist Adam Reiss wins Einstein Medal.
Page B7



NEWS
A student encapsulates the essence of "The Hut" in their description of Hopkins in 300 words.
Page A2

THE
JOHNS HOPKINS
NEWS-LETTER

Editorials	A10
Opinions	A11
Your Weekend	B2
Arts	B3
Cartoons	B6
Science	B7
Sports	B12

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Student cyclist injured in automobile collision

By RIAN DAWSON
Staff Writer

Sophomore Nathan Krasnopoler was hit by a car while bicycling near the intersection of W. University Parkway and 39th Street last Saturday. He was sent to Hopkins Hospital, where he has been listed in critical condition.

Police describe the incident

as an accident, and according to Detective Donny Moses, spokesman for the North District Baltimore Police, the driver is not under criminal investigation.

"At around 11:50 a.m., officers responded to W. University Parkway," Moses said. "When officers got there, there were no witnesses. [They] interviewed the driver. Injuries [to the bicy-

clist] were critical. And an accident investigation team examined the scene."

According to the police report, Krasnopoler was riding his bicycle in the bicycle lane when a 2005 Honda Civic, driven by an 83-year-old woman, was trying to make a right onto West 39th from West University. Krasnopoler ran into the vehicle and was thrown

in front of the car. The driver could not stop the vehicle and Krasnopoler was trapped underneath it. The fire department extracted Krasnopoler and he was transported to Hopkins Hospital.

Junior Henry Ma was near the scene of the accident.

"All I saw was a car on the side of the road and people standing

SEE BIKE ACCIDENT, PAGE A7



MORGAN YANG/PHOTO EDITOR
The street where Krasnopoler was struck.

Zakaria to speak at Class of 2011 graduation

By DANIELLE STERN
Staff Writer

This Wednesday, the commencement speaker for the Hopkins class of 2011 was announced as journalist and author Fareed Zakaria.

Zakaria is host of CNN's Fareed Zakaria GPS, Editor-at-Large of *TIME Magazine*, columnist for the *Washington Post* and former editor of *Newsweek International*. He has been hailed by *Esquire Magazine* as "the most influential foreign policy advisor of his generation."

"[Zakaria] is a particularly appropriate [choice] given the current turmoil [in the Middle East]," said Senior Class President Josh Ayal.

Raised in Mumbai, Zakaria received a B.A. from Yale University and a Ph.D. in political science from Harvard University. He has written two *New York Times* best-sellers, *The Post-American World* and *The Future of Freedom: Illiberal Democracy at Home and Abroad*, both of which focus strongly on the future of the US in the international arena.

"I'm really excited to hear what Fareed Zakaria has to say knowing he's accomplished so much in his life," senior Grace Yoo said. "I am confident that he will deliver a great address."

According to Ayal, the administration has been working with the senior class council since the summer to select an appropriate speaker. Despite their hard work, many seniors having expressed uncertainty about the council's choice.

"Reading the description about him, it makes me feel unlearned that I don't know who is he," senior Linda Zhou said. "I'm keeping an open mind and hopefully, it will turn out to be unexpectedly good."

Senior Andrew Wisneski agreed. "After a quick Google search, I think this [is] someone who would probably be more memorable to the IR side of Hopkins. But nevertheless I am grateful for the class council's efforts."

Party like it's 1800



Homewood Museum hosted the "Privileged Pursuits" party last Saturday. The event featured an in-depth of 19th century dance styles and etiquette. See A4 for more.

Van service to implement changes

By SARAH TAN
Editor in Chief

After reviewing a list of recommendations compiled by the Student Government Association (SGA) last fall, both the Hopkins Security Office and the Hopkins Department of Transportation announced this week that they will be making changes to the Homewood Security Escort Van.

The most significant changes are that there will be more routes added to the service and that the service will be re-named. In addition, the service has been bid out to Broadway Services, Inc. (BSI), and the management of the van will now be under the jurisdiction of the Parking and Transportation Office instead of the Security Office.

Employees who currently work on the Escort Van service will have to reapply for their job with BSI. Though most changes such as the addition of new routes will not go into effect until the upcoming fall semester, the service will be making the



EDDIE WANG/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
The Escort Van will be adding routes and is now owned by a private company.

switch over to operation under BSI starting April 1.

"It will be run more like shuttle services like the Homewood JHMI Shuttle with defined routes and scheduled departure times. By fall of 2011, we won't be defined by our one mile radius," Associate Director of Plant Operations Greg Smith said.

The changes are being implemented after a proposal from the SGA that came to the Security department last fall.

The proposal, spear-headed by senior Sean Murphy, outlined a list of suggested changes based off of a survey the SGA sent out to the student body concerning the

van service. Among them was a recommendation to have a more structured and reliable route service, as well as a route service that was better tailored to the demand of the student body.

According to the survey, over 40 percent of students who responded claimed that they felt unsafe waiting for the vans, 44 percent reported that they waited over 10 minutes for route service, 68 percent reported that they had given up waiting for routed service and 75 percent said they had given up waiting for point-to-point service.

Murphy said that the biggest point of the SGA's proposal

SEE VANS, PAGE A7

Maryland senate approves gay marriage

By ABIGAIL HARRI
For The News-Letter

Feb. 24, 2011 marked the passing of the Civil Marriage Protection Act in the Md. Senate. It is a bill that will legalize same-sex marriage in the state.

Although the bill still requires approval from the Maryland House of Delegates before any official conclusions can be drawn, the political action did not go unnoticed on the Hopkins campus.

Professor Paola Marratti, who is also the director and chair of the Steering Committee for the Program for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Hopkins, was especially passionate about the vote in the Md. Senate and applauded what she considers its achievements in moving toward equality relating to sexual orientation.

"I do not see how the institution of marriage should be an exception to the idea that discrimination on the ground of race, gender, religion or sexual orientation is intolerable in a democratic society," Marratti wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Democratic Senator Richard Madaleno, an openly homosexual member of the Md. Senate, reflected similar beliefs when he spoke on the Senate floor of the oddity he feels in having to legally refer to the man he considers to be his spouse as his partner.

He noted the alienation that has been felt by him and others as a result of the illegality of same-sex marriage. "Without full and equal civil marriage Md. makes sure that

SEE GAY MARRIAGE, PAGE A8

Bob Woodward, renowned journalist, speaks at FAS event

By MICHAEL NAKAN
News & Features Editor

Last Tuesday, Bob Woodward, editor at the *Washington Post* and one-half of the journalistic duo that broke the Watergate Scandal spoke at the Foreign Affairs Symposium (FAS).

The event at Shriver Hall was well-attended.

The lights dimmed as FAS Executive Director Caroline Berger took to the stage and introduced their guest of the evening, whom she described as "the most celebrated reporter of our age."

Woodward took the stage with the crowd cheering and whooping encouragement as they welcomed the 67-year-old who had once been a driving force in the series of reports that led to the resignation of former President



EDDIE WANG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Woodward spoke about politics and the importance of investigative journalism today.

Richard Nixon.

"How much do we know?" Woodward asked the crowd. "How much do we really know?"

Woodward has devoted much of his professional career

to attempting to remove the shadowy veil which sometimes hangs over the murky dealings of Washington insiders. He has written 15 non-fiction books — 12 of which have been number one bestsellers

— making him the most successful living non-fiction author.

Most of his books attempt to detail the lives of presidents or other high-up figures in the U.S. government (although he has strayed from politics on occasion, writing one book about the death of late comedy star John Belushi, which was later adapted into a film).

Between anecdotes, Woodward spoke about how he writes his articles and books.

"The way to go about it is to develop a method like you peel an onion — so you can peel away the layers of the story," he said. "You focus on concrete events and the decision process. Basically we know 60-70 percent about what goes on at the White House, but maybe that

SEE WOODWARD, PAGE A7

NEWS & FEATURES

Women's History Month opening ceremony features Vice Provost

By RACHEL WITKIN
News & Features Editor

Women's History Month at Hopkins officially began last night with an opening ceremony featuring Vice Provost for Institutional Equity Caroline Laguerre-Brown. About 25 people attended the event.

Women's History Month was planned by the Women's History Month Committee, Students Educating and Empowering for Diversity, and the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA).

Laguerre-Brown was chosen because she was able to give insight as a woman to what is going on at Hopkins. "We thought to look within our own institution to showcase the expertise, talent and insight of a [Hopkins women]," OMA's Assistant Director for External Affairs Carla Hopkins wrote in an email to The News-Letter.

Hopkins started off the ceremony introducing this year's

Women's History month. This year's theme is "40 Years Of Phenomenal Women at JHU", emphasizing fitness, staying healthy, and self-defense. Other events include a Jazz and Poetry Night on March 9th, "Fitness Fridays" on March 11th and 18th, a sex trafficking discussion and dinner on March 14th, a Self Defense class on March 17th, a community service event on March 27, and a closing ceremony on April 2nd.

Hopkins spoke about the legacy of the women who were in the first coeducational undergraduate class forty years ago. "Every woman in this room is a part of that legacy and the history of phenomenal women, whether you're a student, administrator or faculty member. You're contributing something to the community that would be long lasting," Hopkins said. "We're gathering here tonight to honor the accomplishments of women worldwide and at [Hopkins]."

Laguerre-Brown was introduced by Amy Bross, an External Affairs intern for the OMA. Laguerre-Brown began her speech by explaining what the Office for Institutional Equity does at Hopkins.

"It is a small office with a massive mission," she said.

As Vice Provost, she works with the office to make sure that Hopkins is following laws relating to diversity and equal opportunity issues. The office investigates discrimination complaints, and provides training on various issues.

Laguerre-Brown explained this so that students would understand the services that her office provides. "We want people to come in and talk to us about what's going on," she said.

After discussing her job at Hopkins, she went on to talk about how excited she was to open this year's Women's History Month. "This year's theme says it all—40 years of phenom-

enal women at [Hopkins]," she said. "That's such a huge topic to get excited about. It is my pleasure to join ... incredible women with intellect and tenacity and spirit that makes Hopkins great."

To research her talk for the opening ceremony, Laguerre-Brown looked online at the library's databases. She found an entire history of women at Hopkins, written by Associate Secretary on the Board of Trustees Julia B. Morgan. The text, entitled *Women at JHU: A History*, was distributed to students at the ceremony.

"[Reading the text] reminded me

of something that I've always known, that the accomplishments of women pursuing their passions are always inspiring," Laguerre-Brown said.

She went on to talk about the 90 women who came to Hopkins in the first coeducational class in September 1970. What was especially interesting to her was that these women were not just satisfied that they had been accepted. "These women began agitating on campus, and their message was clear, 'Letting us in was a good start, but it's not enough,'" she said. "These bold women began a tradition of activism and self-advocacy that resulted in significant steps forward."

This first class of women demanded that Hopkins embrace coeducation in every way, including accommodating housing for women and enhancing security measures.

"Changes were made rapidly because these first female undergraduates circulated petitions, they participated in university committees, and they formed student organizations," Laguerre-Brown said.

Because of the activist tradition of the first women class, the percentage of undergraduate women in the school of Arts and Sciences went from 4.7 percent in 1970 to 38.2 percent in 1985. "The landscape of Hopkins was forever changed," Laguerre-Brown said.

However, there were still many problems on campus that needed to be fixed. In 1984 and 1985, there was a large underrepresentation of women on the

faculty. "This new era in Hopkins history would bring new and more complicated challenges, challenges a new and ongoing

in diversity."

Laguerre-Brown responded with concern. "I can't say strongly enough how much university administration agrees with you that that's a problem, that we care about that, and we're working on it," she said.

An effort to start hiring minority tenure track professors started in 2008. 20 professors have been hired so far. "That's something that we think is a great success," she said.

She went on to discuss how important her minority female professors were to her at SUNY-Binghamton, so important that she still remembers their names.

"It would be great to hear from students more,"

she said. "I know, for me, in my college experience, having faculty of color around made a huge difference for me."

Hawkins also feels that Hopkins students need to be more involved in activism. "Students need to hold the institution accountable with what [they] want, not just go with the flow," she said. "[These issues] need to be addressed."

Junior Cristine Carter, who talked to Laguerre-Brown about the lack of female engineering professors, felt that the event went very well. "It was very informative [and] I learned a lot of new stuff," she said.

Feminist Alliance President Yelena Tsilker was one of the students who helped plan the event, gearing up right after Intercession. Though the turnout was rather small, Tsilker felt that it was a good selection of people. "It was enough of an environment of interesting individuals," she said.

Laguerre-Brown encouraged students to participate in Women's History Month. "This kickoff event and the events that will follow throughout the month of March are an opportunity to acknowledge the pioneers of our Hopkins past, to encourage and support the brave women today, and to inspire the leaders of the future," she said.

"Women's history month celebrations are also an important reminder that when we are guided by the principles that we're passionate about and when we believe in ourselves, we can make a real difference."



CAROLYN HAN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Laguerre-Brown speaks about 40 years of women on the Homewood campus.

JHU and UB cooperate to connect MD's and JD's

By RIAN DAWSON
Staff Writer

Within the next year, the Hopkins Medical School and University of Baltimore Law School will be working together in a joint venture to encourage communication between the professions. The Center will be located at the PLACE, with both offices currently being hosted on the Hopkins medical campus.

"It's a coming together of a law school and a medical school and what we're trying to do is to start a center that's going to start looking at how law affects the actual way doctors practice medicine," University of Baltimore Law School Dean Phillip Closius said. "So we're going to start examining the legal issues that are starting to affect the practice of medicine with a kind of sub-idea that doctors and lawyers have to start cooperating. That the two professions really can't see themselves adversarial if we want to get some meaningful solutions to a whole range of health problems."

Dr. Fred Levy, co-director of the center also explained the function of the center in an email to *The News-Letter*. Levy holds a JD/MD degree.

"Center activities will focus on research, education and training of both disciplines," he wrote. "We will research critical health law questions like tort reform and patient safety, educate the professions by holding regional and national conferences with both groups in attendance and have training programs throughout all levels from students through and including post graduate training programs."

Levy hopes that the center will eventually be able to weigh in on health law issues.

"Ultimately, we hope to influence health law policy once we have been able to establish ourselves as a premiere academic national resource."

Along with Levy, the center will be directed by Greg Dolin, another attorney-physician. Levy said one of their primary focuses will be in making the center grow.

"My role will be to co-direct center operations," Levy wrote. "That will include long-range strategic planning about the issues that the center will focus on. Initially, my co-director and I will focus on prioritizing projects and recruiting affiliate faculty from around the country to help us with our efforts."

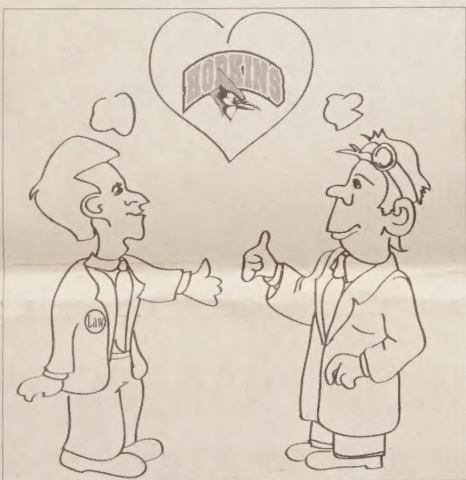
The center has other similar institutions to model after, like one such entity at Florida State University. The Hopkins-University of Baltimore center, however, will be different.

"The main difference and what sets ours apart is that other centers, to our knowledge, do not specifically focus on the doctor-lawyer relationship," Levy wrote. "They focus on training law students, public health professionals, patients; all of which are important, but that is the main difference."

Though the center is a collaborative effort, it will not grant de-

grees. Rather, it will be a facility that will give law students and medical students the opportunity to collaborate.

"It's going to give an opportunity for medical students and law students to interact," Closius said. "It's going to sponsor a symposium, it's going to take position papers on a whole variety of issues as things come up. But there's no degree that's granting out of it."



ANNE FABER/GRAPHICS EDITOR

The center has been a collaborative effort between the law school and medical school. As Closius explained it, the idea came about roughly three years ago and there was informal dialogue between the two.

"As it developed, Hopkins put out an RFP — a request for proposals," Closius said. "I know a number of law schools responded. So, this was [for] a while [a] public thing where they put out a request for proposals where a number of law schools responded and the Hopkins people decided that our proposal was the one that was best for them."

As for where the center is being housed, Closius said both directors will be housed at Hopkins until the completion of a new building on the University of Baltimore's campus — to be completed in late fall of 2012.

"Once the new building is created, we will also provide some office space in the new building here at the University of Baltimore," Closius said. "Once the new building is up, there will be office space both at Hopkins and at Baltimore's Law school for the center."

Resources offered by the center will not be required by students. But as the center develops, it is not known whether courses the center may offer in the future will become part of the schools' curricula.

"I don't know if the classes will be required — that would be up to either school independently," Closius said. "For example, I'm already teaching three one-hour lectures at the Hopkins Medical School to the second year medical class. As part of that, we also have the medical students in small sections reviewing three different cases and we have 15 law students who are working with the small groups in reviewing the case. That's a good example of an interaction that is then going to be under the center once we get the center up and going."

Closius said that, all in all

there are hopes that there will be a great amount of student involvement and communication between the two schools.

"Everything we do ultimately we would like to have as a benefit to students in some form or another," Closius said. "So, obviously the symposium students from both institutions will be invited to the symposium. As I say, we're already doing something where we do la students discussing legal things with med students. I know we envisioned it going the other way too."

"We'd like to get medical students to come over and participate in some form in our healthcare courses. If we go to a journal there will be work for students in that. We're already doing a number of things with Hopkins that kind of [have] just been going on that are now going to be brought under the banner of the center."

The budget for the center, so far, is remaining fluid because they aren't sure exactly how much will be expended.

"We're still kind of figuring it out a little bit," Closius said. "There's a budget in the sense that there is a Hopkins doctor, we have our doctor, we know what they're being paid, fringe benefits, all that. We know about what it's going to take to get a fellow, we know about what we're willing to pay for that."

"We're going to be supplying some travel money for the faculty, to fellow some marketing money, some seed money, things like that. We're not 100 percent sure about the symposium in terms of whether they're for free or we'll charge. The bulk of the additional budget is going to be [for] salaries and travel money and that sort of stuff."

On the Hopkins end, Levy said that there is no extra money being spent.

"Hopkins (department of EM) is bringing its existing program to form the joint center. There are no new dollars or space being assigned to initiate the newly configured joint center from Hopkins," Levy wrote.

Levy wrote that the center already has some directives they wish to accomplish during its first year.

"We are looking to accomplish a few fundamental things," he wrote. "We would like to recruit a complement of affiliate 'subject matter' experts so that depending on the issue to be examined, we have someone or can recruit someone to help us study the issue."

We want to develop the correct infrastructure and administrative component so that the center can evolve and grow and we would like to plan a major conference [the subject of which is undecided but will likely deal with healthcare reform]. Additionally, we plan to develop and launch a website as a clearinghouse for the professions and others interested in health law."

Hopkins In 300 Words

The Hutzler Reading Room, Tuesday evening

By LUMA SAMAWI
For *The News-Letter*

When college kids think of studying for a midterm, the image they draw in their heads is

that of an isolated, fluorescent-lit space with uncomfortable seats and old book stacks for furniture. That was what I had pictured, at least, up until a few weeks into last semester. While walking to my class in Gilman every Tuesday morning, I had to cross the cold, architecturally fascinating atrium, but always noticed a contrastingly vibrant space behind big wooden doors: The Hutzler Reading Room, affectionately known as "The Hut."

It is not hard to instantly fall in love with the strong smell of wood, leather and warmth — yes, warmth. Grand stained-glass windows span the circular end of the room, allowing the glistening rays of sun to penetrate

every corner most hours of day. The high dome-shaped ceiling dismisses the confinement of a study area while the olive green of the walls and the shades of brown in wood and leather con-

people in The Hut intensify its character as if whoever walks into that room adopts an aura of scholarly composure and slow-paced solemnity. The only distinct sounds in that room are the

flipping of their pages, the occasional murmur and careful footsteps coming in and out.

Of course, the space wouldn't be complete without the new coffee place Alkimia right outside, adding the aroma of coffee beans and fresh carrot cake to the air.

Be it for studying, taking a quick nap between classes or reading one of the magazines on the stands, The Hut is the place to be. Even if it is not your cup of tea, it is definitely a nice change from the daunting underground levels of the library.



COURTESY OF LUMA SAMAWI
The Hutzler reading room (AKA The Hut) is the perfect place to study.

spire with the rich velvety paintings to create a lively ambience of exuberant ease.

Interestingly enough, the

Man on the Street

Planned Parenthood: *What do you think of the House of Representatives cutting funding for Planned Parenthood because the organization performs abortions?*



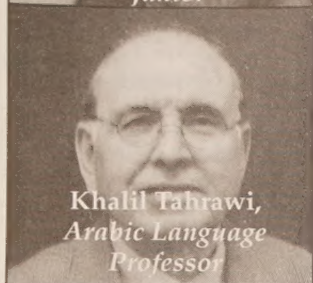
Morgan Coffin,
Sophomore

"In my opinion, the money could be better spent elsewhere. I don't believe it falls within the realm of the government to fund abortion. I believe there is enough private funding to keep Planned Parenthood alive without government support."



Mo Alkaysi,
Junior

"I think that it's foolish to cut funding because Planned Parenthood is much more than an abortion company. They don't only help teenagers who are getting an abortion, but also those who are intent on keeping a child. They also run sex education programs that are unrelated to abortion."



Khalil Tahrawi,
Arabic Language
Professor

"I think abortion is a family issue. The government should not fund it. Regardless, I don't believe that abortion should be legalized, and should be allowed only if a woman's life is in danger."



Shayna Rose,
Freshman

"Speaking from a purely ecological perspective, we have 7 billion people in the world, each one depleting valuable reserves. And chief among those depleters are Americans. You'd think our government would be doing all that it possibly could do to control the population."



Craig Bohrsen,
Freshman

"With these programs, their purpose is to help people. It's a shame that this program is being cut, and of course some people are going to suffer. But it's better that the money is taken from this than from more critical programs, like public education, food stamps or transportation safety."



Angie Pinilla,
Freshman

"I disagree with this cut because Planned Parenthood does a lot more than abortions. They also give sex education to thousands of young men and women. If they are unable to continue with their programs, there will be a lot more teenage pregnancies and unwanted babies. This is bad from both an economic and social perspective."

Despite dedicated members, the Kung Fu Club struggles to survive amidst arising issues

By GRACE YEON
For The News-Letter

Last Friday, the Chinese Students Association (CSA) hosted its annual Chinese Lunar Year Banquet celebrates the Chinese Lunar New Year by offering the student body free Chinese food and performances related to Chinese culture.

Performances included a lion dance by the Johns Hopkins Lion Dance Troupe and a comedic skit by the Johns Hopkins Kung Fu club.

This year, the Members of Kung Fu club spar in the Rec Center three times a week. The banquet had a turn-out of a little over 100 people. The co-president of CSA, Shida Li, expressed hopes for a larger attendance.

"We wanted more people to come this year, but because of space we only had room for about 100 people," Li said.

CSA originally wanted the banquet in the Glass Pavilion to accommodate more people but they couldn't find out if the space was reserved until after the Lunar New Year had passed.

There also was a problem with catering this year. Szechuan House, CSA's usual caterer for the banquet was charging them \$200 more this year than last year for an unknown reason.

Thus this year's food was catered by King Wok. Despite the different caterer, people were commenting on how good the food was this year. It is not certain whether CSA will stick with this caterer for next year.

Despite the obstacles faced this year, Li felt that overall the event was a success. "I think the banquet went nicely. It was successful," Li said.

Among one of the highlights of the banquet was the Kung Fu club's performance. Hopkins

Kung Fu performed a comedic skit of two competing martial arts instructors trying to find students while parodying martial arts stereotypes.

In the end, the masters lose all their students due to their



MORGAN YANG / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

increasing workloads, which is true for the club here at Hopkins. Ironically, the skit did not reflect the actual style of the club. Kong Kong Liu, the secretary of the club said that the skit was mainly to entertain and promote the club.

Although the club sometimes performs during on-campus events such as the Lunar Year Banquet and the Inter-Asian Council Formal, they do not travel much. Liu said that the club normally just trains. Liu adds, "But we are thinking of trying to expand."

According to the Hopkins Kung Fu website, the club was started by Dr. Shin Lin (chair of the Hopkins Biophysics department) and sifu John Clayton in 1988.

The main style they practice is Wing Chun, a style mainly based

on self-defense, in contrast with other styles like Taekwondo and Wushu which fight for sport.

The object of this martial art is to stop the fight as soon as possible. The art focuses on making sure that the opponent doesn't have the ability to fight back. Despite the art focusing mainly on self-defense, it also teaches efficient ways to be on the offense.

"The cool thing about the art is it works on using both hands; on being ambidextrous.

You don't just block, you block and attack at same time," Liu said.

Liu further described Wing Chun as more of an art form than simply a way of self-defense, blending a philosophy of non-violence and the capability of handling a confrontational situation.

"I feel like it's a really beautiful art. It's very useful in terms of actual practical self-defense. You're learning a skill that on the one hand in a critical situation might actually save your life, but on the other hand, you hopefully won't ever have to face that situation," Liu said.

In addition to learning Wing Chun, the club also learns Silat, an Indonesian martial art. This martial art form is similar to Wing Chun but includes weapons training, such as knife and stick techniques.

While club members are prepared to fend off physical attacks, the club itself faces some other challenges.

Due to a new Hopkins policy that all coaches must have insurance and first-aid training, the club just lost its official Wing Chun teacher a couple weeks ago. A budget cut of 25 percent also contributed to the instructor opting to leave. The club's original budget was \$2500-3000, but now is only \$1000.

More experienced members like Liu and Andy Wong, president of the club, have stepped up and taken over the class to teach

newcomers the basics. The official Wing Chun instructor still offers free lessons to the public off-campus at a church and the club still has its official Silat instructor.

Even with these challenges, there are many people involved with the club with varying levels of commitment.

There are about eight regular Silat students and five to ten regular Wing Chun students. There

is a wide range of skill levels, but most are beginners.

Wing Chun is not just about fighting and self-defense either. "It's almost like a way of life. You're training more than your body; you're training your mind too. You're learning about a way of life that's been going on for a couple hundred of years so to me that's really special," Liu said.

Wong and Liu said that the

club requires little commitment, but to become a skilled martial artist, it takes years.

No experience is required to join and the club is open to everyone, including staff, graduate students and even non-Hopkins affiliates. They meet on the 3rd floor of the Rec Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 p.m. — 10:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 4 p.m. — 6 p.m.

SGA looks to donate books to high schoolers

By NICKY HARNIK
For The News-Letter

SGA held a minute of silence for injured student Nathan Krasnopoler Tuesday, as well as discussing pre-med requirements and the sophomore "Halfway to Graduation" party in a brief but thorough meeting.

The members of SGA, who begin their meeting at 7:30 every Tuesday in Mason Hall, were itching to finish their meeting by 8 o'clock in hopes of seeing famous investigative reporter Bob Woodward speak for the Foreign Affairs Symposium.

SGA President senior Mark Dirzulaitis began the assembly by discussing what is on the docket for his meeting with the President and the Provost Friday.

In the meeting, Dirzulaitis will recap the projects the assembly has been working on the past year, where the SGA stands on Spring Fair and will discuss student concerns.

Dirzulaitis added that Senior President Josh Ayal will have a separate meeting to discuss who will speak at graduation.

Treasurer sophomore Wyatt Larkin then spoke to the committee about their finances, including finding funds for some office accessories.

Following Larkin, Sophomore President Alexandra Larsen discussed what her committee, Academic Affairs, has been up to.

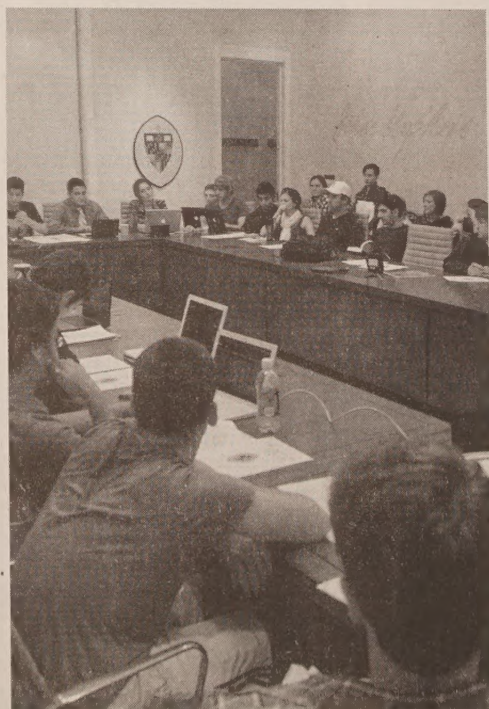
Larsen has met with Dean Connolly, and is working on reforming pre-med curriculum requirements.

As they are now, the require-

ments do not allow students to take classes in the order of the way they are offered.

Larsen also spoke of the committee's initiative to donate AP and SAT prep books to Baltimore Students.

The committee plans to send out letters to accepted students asking them to bring their old prep books with them when they visit Hopkins for the overnight program.



FILE PHOTO

SGA discussed the bike program in light of the recent accident.

Larsen also said that the committee would be unable to have a resolution written for course evaluations since the software they were planning to use cannot be implemented.

The committee discussed making the evaluations professor specific.

Sophomore Senator Mike Wu, speaking on behalf of the Appointments and Evaluations committee, said they had received 21 new student group applications.

Senator Nick Trenton then followed for the Finance Committee and told the SGA how he had met with the president of Dance Marathon and had gotten infor-

mation about their budget.

He also said that the Student Initiatives Grant's application deadline was being pushed back to Monday.

The committee also approved funding for Valentine's Day roses.

Junior President Ardi Mendoza, head of the Student Involvement Committee, then spoke to the SGA about the Center for Social concern's committee that publicizes their projects to the students.

Following the committee reports, Ayal discussed Senior Club Night. Senior Club Night will be held this Thursday at Mosaic.

There will be buses provided, but only for seniors.

Mendoza then spoke for the junior class and discussed their idea to have an event the week-end of Homecoming.

His plan is to have the event, which will include lemonade and food, on the beach.

Larsen also discussed her meeting with Dave Furman regarding the sophomores Halfway to Graduation event.

The sophomores are also planning on creating Class of 2013 sunglasses and having a bus trip to Washington D.C. for the Cherry Blossom Festival.

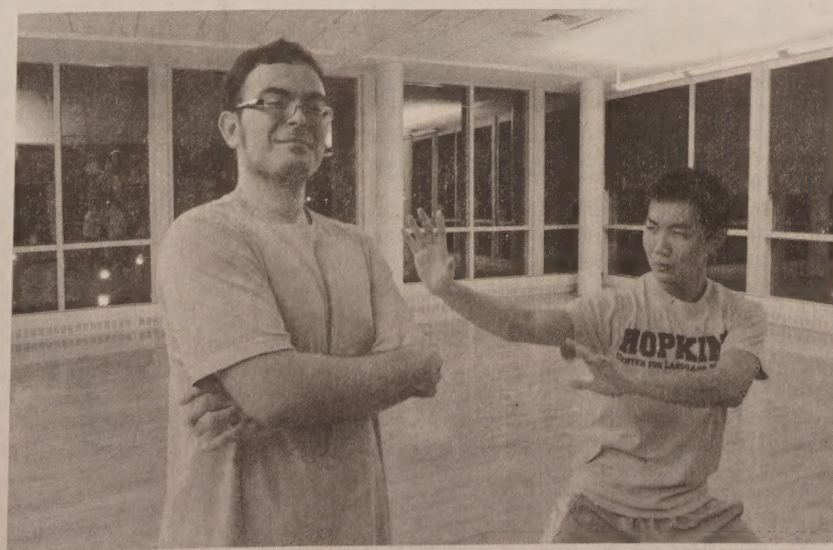
The SGA then held a moment of silence in honor of sophomore Nathan Krasnopoler, who was hit by a car on Saturday and is now in a coma at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Shortly after the moment of silence, the council held an open discussion about their plan for a Bike Share Program in light of the recent tragic accident.

All members concurred that the SGA should ensure students would be bicycling in a safe environment before they started the program.

Many advocated placing more traffic lights and speed bumps around campus, in order to slow cars down and keep drivers more aware.

Larsen added that this year, two security guards were hit by cars, and though they were not serious injuries, "more people are getting hit than we are aware."



MORGAN YANG / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Experienced members of the Kung Fu club, Erich Reimer (left) and Kong Kong Liu (right) train regularly.

NEWS & FEATURES

Party like the 1800's at Homewood Museum

By GISELLE CHANG
News & Features Editor

While '80s- and '90s-themed dance parties have come into their own as stereotypical party themes of the college dance scene, the Hopkins Homewood House added its own temporal twist to the trend this past Saturday with its "Privileged Pursuits Party," where guests partied like it was the 1800s.

Every year, Director and Curator of the Homewood Museum Catherine Arthur teaches a class about an aspect of early life in Baltimore. As part of the class, the students work with the Homewood Museum to organize several events including inviting speakers and hands-on activities related to the class's subject.

Junior Lydia Alcock, a student employee at the museum, explained that the class culminates in an exhibition. "Every year the class does the historical research and ends up [putting together



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Students as well as community members turned out for the event in costume.

Led by Chrystelle T. Bond, the group was formed in 1988 by several students who were curious about dancing during Jane Austen's time period. The troupe branched out to cover dancing during medieval times, the

Renaissance, the Civil War and even the "Roaring '20s."

Bond explained that recreating dances of the past are difficult due to the different notation styles used by people of previous times.

"We research the dances using primary sources of the time," she said. "I'm a dance historian and the best way is to do

demonstrated fencing, card tricks and gambling of the time. Proffitt found out about the group through a park ranger at Fort McHenry who is a member of The Manly Arts.

In attendance was also an actress, Molly Moores, portraying Elizabeth Patterson Bonaparte (better known as Betsy Bonaparte). Moores explained that she was hired by the Homewood Museum to act as Bonaparte for the event.

"Betsy Bonaparte married Bonaparte's younger brother in 1803," Moores said. She explained that Betsy was very famous in Baltimore because she married royalty. "If you look at a portrait of her, you can see that I look very similar to her in height and complexion," Moores added.

Moores is an independent contractor who performs a one-woman show impersonating Betsy Bonaparte. This past fall Proffitt saw Moores perform and thought she would be a great addition to the event.

Moores was not the only person in costume either. Chorégraphie Antique was in full costume and brought extras which many of the Homewood Museum volunteers wore.

While many of the Homewood Museum's events require a small fee, the museum tries to have free events for students, the poetry reading "Emergence of American Voices: Early 19th-Century Poetry" being one of them.

Junior Amy-Lou Brouner was very happy she attended. "It was definitely worth it," Brouner said. "There was a half-hour demonstration of fencing, we got to watch a long demonstration of dancing and then participate. We even learned how to flirt with a fan!"

Brouner's friend also attended the event and expressed interest in returning for another similar event.

The next event of the *Privileged Pursuits* series will be a poetry reading on March 10th.



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Chrystelle T. Bond of Chorégraphie Antique explains 1800's dance.

a group project]," Alcock said. "The class culminates in an exhibition."

The course always focuses on life in early Baltimore but it has covered a wide range of topics even within that narrow category.

"Every fall I teach Intro to Material Culture, an undergraduate seminar that meets in the Homewood wine cellar," Catherine Arthur said. "Students have engaged in pet ownership, pregnancy, personal hygiene and next fall, food."

Last year the topic was transportation and there were carriage rides around the house. Downstairs, the group used the wine cellar to simulate a tavern.

For personal hygiene, a woman renowned for her open-hearth cooking came and spoke in costume about personal hygiene 200 years ago. The woman shaved a balloon with a straight razor to demonstrate shaving in the 1800's.

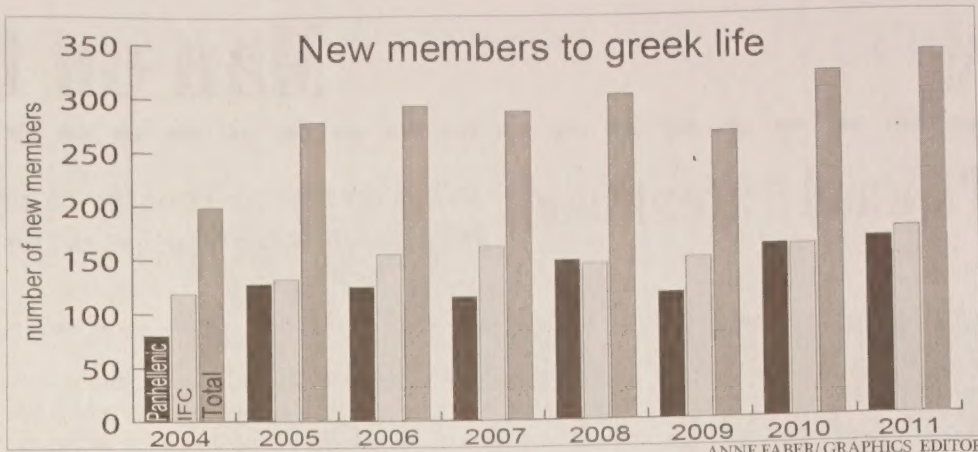
Arthur said that the programs the class and the museum plan together attempt to accurately recreate the lifestyle of the times.

"We make it come alive in the [Homewood] house. It's easier to imagine what life is like. It's fun for me and great for Homewood to have this academic life in the community," she said.

According to Alcock, approximately 50 people including students, faculty and community members attended the event. Judith Proffitt, the Program Coordinator at the Homewood Museum, said she was particularly pleased with the number of students that attended.

During Intersession the museum had organized a "Dancing with Jane Austen" course to lead up to the event. "About half of the students from the class came," Proffitt said.

The guests who had not participated in the Intersession class were at no disadvantage, as a professional dance company, one of the numerous groups invited by the Homewood Museum, gave a free lesson on dancing etiquette of the early 1800s. The dance troupe, called Chorégraphie Antique, is part of the Goucher Dance department.



Fraternities see increase in pledge numbers

By WANG JAE RHEE
News & Features Editor

With rush over and pledging in process, the number of new members projected to join fraternities is slowly taking shape.

Fraternities that make up the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC) reported to have received a total of 173 pledges. Last year 159 pledges were ultimately inducted into a fraternity.

Considering the fact that most, if not all, pledges officially go on to become full-fledged members, this year's pledge class of 173 is a big increase from the 159 new members last year.

Robert Turning, the Greek Life Coordinator at Hopkins, did not have the official number of new fraternity pledges by the time of press, and thus could not comment on the reason for the increase.

Alpha Delta Phi, or more commonly known as WaWa, reported 29 pledges, Alpha Epsilon Pi reported 14, Beta Theta Pi 24, Lambda Phi Epsilon 7, Phi Delta Theta 10, Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji) 14, Phi Kappa Alpha 23, Sigma Alpha Epsilon 16, Sigma Chi 4 and Sigma Phi Epsilon 17.

Overall, the fraternities that received the new pledges conveyed satisfaction in how the rush events have gone and how the pledge events are going.

"We have seen great turnout at our rush events, and I'm looking forward to see how the fraternity [Alpha Epsilon Pi] will progress with the new pledge class," John Maccabee, Rush Chair of Alpha Epsilon Pi, said.

"Rush was a big success for us," Rush Chair of Phi Charlie Buffa said. "We had a lot of kids coming out to the events, a lot of kids expressing interests." He was also optimistic about the pledge class.

"Pledging is still going on, so I can't tell [whether it's a success or not] yet, but we are definitely excited about it," he said. Buffa's counterpart in Phi Kappa Psi,

Ethan Doyle, showed even more satisfaction. "[This year's pledge class] is probably the best we've had," Doyle said.

Even the fraternities that saw small pledge classes, some explicitly smaller than last year's, reported that they were satisfied with the results.

Amit Thakrar, Rush Chair of Phi Delta Theta, still considered his fraternity's pledge class of 10, which is a decrease from last year's 22, a success.

"A lot of frats are different in recruiting. We're small, and we like to keep it that way," he said. "[This year's rush and pledging] are definitely a success," he added.

Erik Kanter, Rush Chair of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, which also saw a decrease from 18 to 16 this year, emphasized that it was the people that mattered, not the numbers. "In terms of quality, I'm satisfied [with our pledge class]," he said.

"There are a lot of good guys. It's about quality, not quantity. How well do each of these kids fit in, how good of a person they are, that's what's important."

Indeed, even Rocky Barilla, Rush Chair of Sigma Chi, which only got seven pledges, said he was somewhat content. "We didn't have a frat house. Under those circumstances, I think we did a good job [in recruiting pledges]," he said. He did, however, say it would have been nice to have more.

On the other hand, 163 girls have enrolled in the sorority pledging process.

That is a decrease from last year's 183. Turning attributed the decrease to the fact that last year's freshman class was unusually large. Indeed, 201 started the sorority rushing process last year, while only 195 did this year.

However, that does not explain the drastic drop from 195 to 163, which is much larger decrease than from 201 to 183. Turning suspected that this year's ab-

normal number of girls dropping out during rush is due to a possible concentration of interest in particular sororities, not due to less interest in rushing in general.

"The chapters that are most preferred, the ones that do the best in recruitment, they have to release women earlier in the process," Turning said. "That's because they know they're going to get more women that they can end up asking in the end."

The number of women that each sorority "releases," or in other words the number of women it will not invite back to the next rush event, is determined by its national headquarters.

Thus, if there are particular sororities that are unusually popular, then more girls rushing will get rejected from rush events, and thus will decide to drop.

However, as Turning pointed out, the number of girls dropping is hard to predict let alone reduce, because it is very much determined by the rushing girls' interests and the internal dynamics that each sorority has with its headquarters.

But Turning did explain that the effect of such a rushing system could be beneficial.

"[It] evens out the playing field for all four sororities," he said, "because those who aren't going to be matched to one sorority can look for other sororities earlier on."

It is for that reason that Turning said that there were immediate plans to change the rush or pledging processes in the future. However, he did say that he wants to establish more sorority chapters on campus.

"We want to keep adding chapters, so we could reduce each sorority's pledge class enough so that everyone can get to know each other better," he said. "The ultimate goal is to have as many sororities as there are fraternities."

Former Fannie Mae CEO Franklin Raines speaks at Foreign Affairs Symposium

By IAN SCOTT
Opinions Editor

No topic has plastered the news in recent years as much as the financial crisis starting in 2007 that led to the worst recession since the Great Depression. One of the fundamental causes of this "Great Recession" was the bursting of the massive housing bubble that had been growing at alarming rates throughout the early 2000s.

The central players in the housing crisis were the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, more commonly known as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac respectively. Franklin Raines, who served as CEO of Fannie Mae from 1999 to 2004 spoke at Hopkins last Thursday courtesy of the Foreign Affairs Symposium (FAS).

In a sparsely attended event in the Glass Pavilion, Raines shared his view on the housing market and his own role in the build-up to the crisis. Raines used the opportunity to clear up some myths regarding the origins of the housing bubble and attempted to absolve himself as well as Fannie Mae from much of the blame that has been heaped on him since the housing market first collapsed.

One of the myths that Raines debunked was that Goldman Sachs and other investment banks are to blame for the global recession. According to Raines, the cause was "regular people making decisions." More specifically, he referred to businessmen and

aspiring homeowners collaborating to serve their own interests.

Many Americans who were denied traditional loans (because they did not have the required credit scores or ample money for down payments) turned to businessmen who sought higher yields. The result was an abundance of sub-prime mortgages. According to Raines, these types of people were the cause of the housing market's collapse, but they are not entirely to blame: "They were individually pursuing what to them was a perfectly reasonable goal," he said.

Raines also stressed the fact that poor people did not cause the crisis. Even if all of the loans made to lower-class Americans defaulted, he claimed, they constituted such a small portion of the total that they would not have triggered such a large collapse. Raines attributed the cause to the middle class homeowners who could not afford their all-paid loans.

Many people have been clamoring for increased regulation in the financial sector in order to prevent crises like this from ever happening again. According to Raines, regulation is a complicated issue. While imposing stricter regulations on the financial sector may seem like a cure-all solution, Raines argued that it would never eliminate crises completely, as crises happen over and over again and never come back in the same form. He added that people in the financial sector will always manage to find loopholes to the laws, no matter how strict they become.

Raines also offered a perspective into the mindset of businessmen. He claimed that there is about a half percent chance that business people will be caught in a situation like this recession, and that the rest of the time they will be fine. Businessmen, he argued, always believe that they will make it out before the crash.

He elaborated that "incentives mean everything" to the financial sector and that it cannot be trusted to regulate itself.

Raines also drew on his experiences as the budget director under Bill Clinton by comparing current government spending to government spending in the '90s. In 1998, the US government spent only 19 percent of its GDP, far lower than all other developed countries, and still managed to balance the budget.

Today, taxes have dropped to 14 percent of GDP and spending has risen to 25 percent, causing the US deficit to grow to an unprecedented \$1.5 trillion. Furthermore, Raines criticized the programs on which the government is spending its money.

"We are spending on consumption for today," he said. Instead, the government should be

spending money on things that people cannot do for themselves, like highways, education and the environment.

By spending on programs like healthcare and food stamps, Raines believes the government is hurting the American people. "We do not empower people, we empower institutions," he said.

Raines went on to add that healthcare is a financial drain.

"People will consume as much healthcare treatment as doctors are willing to provide them."

Raines's speech also explained the role of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in the housing crisis. These two government-sponsored housing mortgage giants offered riskier loans to homeowners, many of whom then defaulted on their mortgages, causing the federal government to take over the two publically owned companies. Despite the heavy criticism of Raines's loosening of mortgage application standards, Raines claims that he was not at fault.

According to Raines, Fannie Mae was not in the same situation as private banks, which can choose not to loan to potential homeowners if the risk is too great. Fannie Mae was supposed to be

there to support those turned away from others and as a result was forced to make bad loans.

Some students who attended the speech thought that Raines, while providing insight into the housing mortgage industry, was evasive and refused to shoulder any blame for policies that were installed during his reign at Fannie Mae.

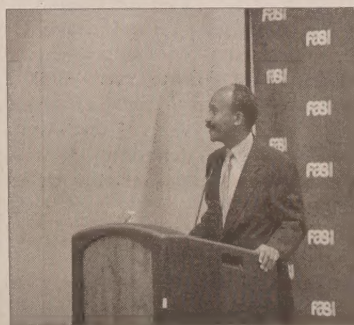
"I thought overall Raines was very vague and refused to accept any blame for the collapse of the housing market, something that he certainly was part of," Freshman Class President Merrill Anovick said. "The roots of the crisis go back several decades and just because he was not holding the office during the collapse, doesn't mean his decisions did not factor in."

Sophomore Wyatt Larkin added that while Raines did not address all of the causes of the housing bubble, he did make some good points.

"He had some justification in pointing out the more structural elements of a free market that can lead to financial bubbles," Larkin said.

FAS Executive Chief Caroline Berger termed the speech a success.

"He gave us a larger view of how specific people act in their own interests but how that aggregates into companies and bank loans and mortgages . . . A lot of people just look in the past decade and just blame Fannie and Freddie but I thought Mr. Raines looked further back and gave a great opinion of how the bubble burst," she said.



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Franklin Raines speaks about Fannie Mae.

NEWS & FEATURES

W. Wilson Scholar finds distinctly American quality in megachurches

By JUSTIN LI
Staff Writer

For many high school students, a school project is something done and then forgotten. It does not become a major research project; it doesn't result in international travel; and it certainly doesn't result in publication.

Thanks to the Woodrow Wilson Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program however, Nicole Overley's high school inquiry into Christian megachurches became just that.

Currently in her fourth year of the five-year BA/MA program with the Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Overley was first prompted into studying megachurches by a high school project.

"In my junior year [of high school], I had to do a year-long project somehow answering 'What it means to be an American' and I decided to look at megachurches," Overley said.

More prevalent in southern and western United States, megachurches are churches that have very large congregations. They are typically non-denominational and worship in non-traditional ways.

They are characterized by their use of contemporary music and theatrics in their worship services. They perform community center-type functions, including day care, food services and recreational trips.

Hailing from Atlanta, Georgia where they are very popular, Overley knew many people that attended megachurches.

"There were a lot of people I knew that started going to these megachurches . . . And I was trying to figure out why people would want to go to them," Overley said.

"I went to a traditional Presbyterian church . . . [Megachurches] seemed very counterintuitive to what a church is," she explained.

An inquisitive scholar, Overley visited many megachurches to investigate; but being a poorly funded scholar, she was limited to megachurches in the Atlanta area.

"I couldn't travel anywhere beyond Metropolitan Atlanta to look at these places. So by the end of the year I felt I had come up with more questions than answers," Overley said.

"I felt I hadn't really answered my question. So when I applied to Hopkins I decided my Woodrow Wilson application would be to continue that project."

After receiving the grant, Overley decided to use it to fund visits to other Christian megachurches.

"For the first month of the summer of freshman year, I went out to California. I visited 20 churches and drove up and down the entire state," Overley said.

During her travels in California, Overley made an observation that spurred the next leg of her research.

"One of the things I thought was really interesting when I went out to California was that a lot of the churches there have so much money and so many resources," Overley said.

"There's only so much they can grow in their community . . . so they decided to go to Europe and try to reverse European secularization . . . they started to do outreach to the [United Kingdom]."

Intrigued, Overley decided to incorporate a discussion of religious practices in the UK into her research.

"When I came back to Hopkins, I started talking to my mentor about bringing a European component [to] the project and doing a comparative study," Overley said.

"Just looking at churches in the US was interesting but some work had been done on that and I was trying to figure out a new

angle on it and I had a lot of money left over. So I decided to go to the UK."

The summer after her sophomore year, Overley visited the UK, France and Italy for a month. The majority of that time she spent in the UK and it proved the most important.

"The UK part of my trip was the most formative part as far as my thesis is concerned," Overley said.

In the UK, Overley spoke with members of numerous churches and learned much about the religious life in Britain. British church attendance peaked in the '30s and '40s, which Overley attributes to world events like the Great Depression and WWII. She cites the societal changes of the '60s and '70s as important catalysts for the subsequent decline in attendance.

An Economics and International Studies major, Overley drew on her knowledge of economics to formulate a hypothesis to explain the religious situations of the US and the UK.

"What I've been arguing is that the US and the UK have very different religious economies. It stems from the fact that in the US there's no state sponsorship of one church," Overley said.

"Churches [in the US] over time have changed a lot to reach out to the people because it's their only source of funding. Like any business, they have [to] keep reaching out to people and changing with society, and megachurches are the latest version of that."

Overley attributed the changes in society as the reason why traditional churches have declined and mega churches have become so popular in the US.

"As society has gone [to a] more rock music, theater, entertainment, media generation, churches have had to adjust to it or else people wouldn't feel they fit."

"On the flip side in the UK,

they've always had state funding of the Anglican church. The Anglican Church hasn't had to change to reach out to the people because they've always had this set amount of income coming in from the state," Overley said.

"They've never felt, like a business would, the need to reach out to its customers and fit the need of the customer. They've just been doing what they want. It's the difference between a religious monopoly and a competitive market."

Similarly to the situation in the US, Overley attributed the Anglican Church's lack of response to societal changes as the reason for religious decline in the UK.

"Because the church hasn't changed and the people have, the trajectories have changed so much. The people have no desire to go to church and the church isn't even trying [to get people to go]," Overley said.

While church attendance in the US is not at the levels of that of the UK, Overley noted that megachurches arose due to a decline in attendance at traditional churches.

"[During the '60s and '70s] young people were rejecting everything they were raised with and rejecting traditional churches came with the territory," Overley said.

"The traditional churches at the time took the stance of rejection. They didn't change to reach out. The people that came to step in were the megachurches. The first ones were developed around then; the late '70s in California."

But despite the efforts of the megachurches, Overley remarked that the movement towards secularization was a worldwide trend, and she was uncertain if anything could stop it.

"The more scientific discovery we have and the more independent people become the more they feel they can do things on their own," Overley said.



COURTESY OF NICOLE OVERLEY
Overley finds the Metropolitan Cathedral in Liverpool, UK to be one of her favorites.

"There's less uncertainty in the world than there used to be. In the Middle Ages and you would get a random disease and die and the only thing you could do was to hope and rely on a higher power."

"People feel they can take their lives a lot more into their own hands now."

However, Overley believes that the continual adjustments in religious practices in the US will be able to prevent complete secularization.

"The trend of religious innovation will continue to happen in the US. The only point at which I think it would become completely secularized is if that religious innovation leads churches to the point where [they aren't a] church anymore at all," Overley said.

"The most important thing is for those churches to be cognizant of society and strike a balance between where society is heading and where they think their beliefs should take them."

"And I think that balance has to involve a lot of tolerance and understanding in order to show people that they can have religious belief and be [the] people

society is telling them to be."

Since completing her thesis, Overley has presented her research at a number of conferences.

She presented her paper at a conference held by the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, received "Best Paper" at the Southeastern Undergraduate Sociological Symposium and will be presenting her paper at a conference held by the Association for the Study of Religion, Economics and Culture in April.

Overley also shared her research directly with other research groups.

"Last summer, I went to the Hartford Institute of Religious Research and talked to them for a week," Overley said. While the Institute had done studies on megachurches, Overley's work into churches in the UK was fairly new, and she was able to share her unique insights with the group.

Overley is working to get her current thesis published and after completing her studies at the School of Advanced International Studies, she plans on pursuing the topic further and writing a book on it.

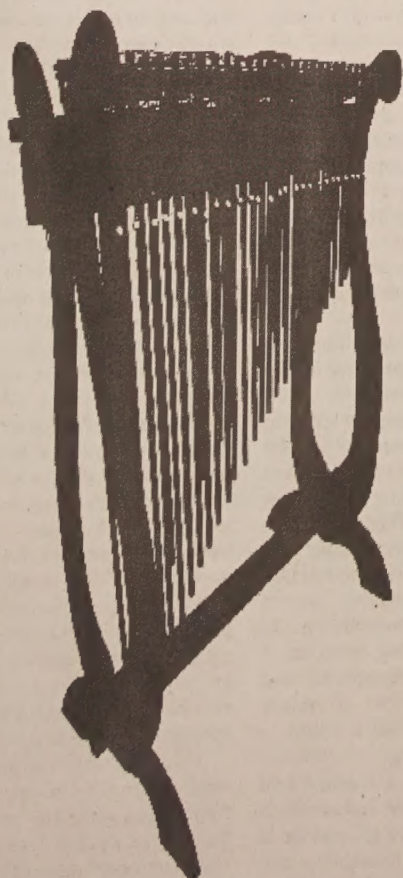
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NEWS & FEATURES

Things I've Learned with Prof. Flombaum: understanding the mind

By PATRICIA KINGKEO
For *The News-Letter*

Do you ever get frustrated with your own mind? Jonathan Flombaum, assistant professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, explores visual perception and cognition in order to understand the limitations of the human mind. How is it that we understand so little about the simplest tasks our minds do?

Flombaum, who grew up in the Bronx, majored in psychology and biology at Harvard University and obtained his Ph.D. at Yale. During his time at Yale, Flombaum worked with Brian Scholl in Yale's Perception and Cognition Laboratory where he made discoveries on object persistence and motion tracking. Today, he is the principle investigator at the Attention and Cognition Laboratory of Johns Hopkins where he studies visual perception in order to understand deep underlying mysteries of the mind.

Most students know him as an entertaining, enthusiastic and dedicated professor of Introduction of Cognitive Psychology and The Social Brain / The Visual Brain. Flombaum took a few moments to sit down with *The News-Letter* and discuss his interest in psychology and his research.

The News-Letter (NL): What were your favorite subjects to study in high school?

Jonathan Flombaum (JF): In high school my favorite subjects were whatever science and math we were taking that year. I always really liked [history]. I liked all classes in school. Since I went to an Orthodox Jewish high school, we spent half the day in Jewish classes and my interests in those waned considerably. But I liked English literature, history and other classes.

NL: Were you always interested in psychology?

JF: I didn't really know anything about psychology for most of my life. In my high school there were no psychology classes. We went all day from eight to five with a good part of the day taken up with Jewish studies, so there was not a lot of atypical stuff. You learn science, math, history and English and then that's it. But I really liked intellectual history and philosophy. In fact, I started a philosophy club and we'd read philosophy books and article. So I read some Freud at that time, but that's not really psychology.

I liked those kinds of things. I liked questions about the mind, but I didn't know what they were or who studied them. Certainly I didn't know there was a science that could address the kinds of things I was interested in. When I got to college, I thought I would be a philosopher or a biologist so I took some philosophy, history classes, biology classes. Biology I really liked.

I was especially interested in animal behavior. It took a couple of semesters for me to find my way from animal behavior to psychology — to learn that there were critical scientists who were studying those things and had their cool methods and that I

just didn't know anything about them. That was psychology.

NL: Are there any areas of psychology you are particularly interested in besides animal behavior?

JF: Like most psychologists I've always been interested in the brain and what it can tell us. Certainly I've been fascinated by the fact that the brain produces this amazing thing that I study, the mind. I think my interests have been remarkably similar since I've gotten going. The particular fields and methods I've used to study them have changed as I've found what total combination of things I was most interested in, but right now I study almost entirely vision.

The reason I study vision is because I find it a really accessible way to study the things I'm most interested in, not because I care about vision more than anything else, but because I think vision allows me to address some specific issues. I'm interested in the formats that we use to represent things.

The simpler way to think about that is just to realize that when we represent things in our minds, we don't generally use things that have just pictures or sound like sounds; we can't represent things that have the same properties as the things that we're representing. Instead, what we do is we store descriptions of those things. If you're going to tell somebody what you saw at the museum. You're not going to go, 'Oh I saw this beautiful Monet at the museum and here's what it looked like: there was this purple dot at three comma two, a blue dot at three comma one, and a slightly different pink dot at three comma zero.' That would be describing the image as an image. You would say, 'There was this beautiful painting of lily pads and it was very very large. But most of the lily pads were sort of in the middle and at the sides there were changes in color.' So you're using a vocabulary to describe a thing that is not a point by point description of say, the colors on that canvas. What I want to understand is the vocabulary our mind uses to describe the things that we experience in the world and the thoughts that we have. Since I was a sophomore in college, I was more or less interested in that, and I found vision as being a really good place to study those kinds of things.

NL: What did you do once you graduated college?

JN: I always encourage people that it might be a good idea to take time off of college and work in a lab or be a lab technician and do some others things to help fig-

ure out [what] they want to do. But I didn't do that. I think I was very unusual in being focused on what I was doing, and wanting to continue to do research. I was also very confident that that's what I wanted to do; I really felt like I figured out what was going to make me happy in life. In fact, I knew exactly who I wanted to work with for my Ph.D. I was studying higher level cognition,

very different perspectives on the same kinds of things as opposed to other bigger departments where you get very different perspectives about completely differently things; you're just talking about different things. I have a fantastic set of colleagues and couldn't imagine a better place.

NL: Can you describe some of the projects you work on in your Attention and Cognition Lab?

JF: One

of the main things we do is study tracking. People will often tag me and say, 'Oh, Jon, he studies tracking' or 'He studies this one paradigm that vision people call multiple object tracking' and the truth is, I don't really care about tracking in a specific sense. What I care about is tracking as an opportunity to study an instance we experience all the time — the fact that

thinking is hard and thinking is limited. We study a lot about how we track multiple things at once.

Imagine you're a mom watching a bunch of kids on the playground and you want to know where all of them are at the same time, or you're driving in heavy traffic and monitoring cars in front of you and in your rear mirror, and you want to know something about where they are. We all know we can only remember so many of those things at once. So we study tracking in my lab in order to understand why it's limited. I like to think of it as understanding why thinking is hard, and tracking is an example of thinking. I think it's surprising to a lot of people that our knowledge about where things are located is entirely imprecise. As a mathematical problem, it is impossible to know where things are, even when they're in front of us.

To make it simple, just imagine an object that is very small and very close to you and one that is very very big and very far away from you. Those objects can project an image on your retina of exactly the same size. How do you know whether the object is small and far, big and close, or anything in between? It turns out to be mathematically impossible.

Our vision has all kinds of tricks to give us a good guess, but the answers are that — just guesses. So we don't know where things are in an approximate sense. As a result, we can only track so many things at once because when we have a lot of things about which we only know something approximate, it can become confusable, and we start making errors. So we can try to understand how the limits of the problem that our visual system solves ends up limiting the things we can do.

NL: What do you feel are the wider implications of this study?

JF: There are two kinds. One is more speculative. The more immediate kind of implication to the kind of work that I do is what people describe as human factors. How should we design things to account for the fact that humans are imperfect and that they're going to make mistakes? If I'm going to build a huge radar monitor of all the planes that are going to land at JFK airport, how should I build that screen? What should I make the object on the screen look like? What's too big and what's too small for the person to take that information effectively? So I work to make contributions to things like that. How should we build airplane cockpits, how should we build cars, how should we tag the images that radiologists get in hospitals... That's the general standard answer.

But I think there is a much deeper potential implication for the work that we do which is that in the end we still understand re-

markably little about why we're limited, which is what I think we study — why our cognitive abilities are limited. And moreover, why they're different between people. We look to solutions to problems like Attention Deficit Disorder, dyslexia, Alzheimer's, and things that are kind of shared where we assume where everyone's mind is the same, or biological problems. I think the work that we do will, over time, give us a more accurate picture of why we're limited in the first place and what's different between people. I think it's going to give us a better terminology for understanding what the true cognitive problems in disorders are.

I think we haven't made great progress yet on understanding mental dysfunction, I think it's a little while away. As I said, we know remarkably little about why we're limited in the first place, so of course we can't understand how people who have disorders are even more impaired than your average person, but I think that we're all pretty impaired or pretty limited machines. And understanding that will help us understand a variety of things.

NL: How do you feel your passions such as history and philosophy have affected the classes you've created for your students at Hopkins?

JF: I like to think that my classes are unusual. They certainly don't look like other classes with the same title; my Introduction to Cognitive Psychology class has a very different structure and it doesn't have a textbook, which is totally atypical for that kind of class. But even the topics that I choose are a different and the types of material I try to find are different. I think that probably my prior interest in philosophy or history has something to do with it.

I really enjoy reading a lot. I read widely so I still indulge my interests in history and philosophy pretty frequently. I come across things a lot of time that I want to use as an educator so I find ways of using things, even if they're a little more peripheral.

I think also, there are different kinds of scientists. I'm not going to say that there are two kinds of scientists; there's certainly more of a continuum, but some people tend to be more generalists and some people tend to be more focused. I've been kind of a generalist so that influences my classes too. I'm a generalist about topics, but I'm a real zealot about particular theoretical points of view.

I really enjoy doing both in my own work and my class and perhaps take too much advantage of being the boss, but what I really like doing is finding cases that fit those [certain] theoretical perspectives that people don't think of as being part of that theoretical perspective. It drives me to reach wider for topics in the course where I try to show that the kinds of things that explain cognition in general apply even in the areas that are not traditionally part of cognitive psychology.

NL: What do you like best about teaching, especially teaching Hopkins students?

JF: I love teaching in general because on any given day in the lab it's very easy to feel like I'm not sure if anything I'm doing amounts to anything, experiments can fail, every paper you write gets reviewers who tell you that there's something wrong with it, and they're often right about what's wrong with it. It takes lots of experiments and studies put together to really make a point, to tell a story, to discover something.

Whereas when I teach, I feel like I get to share information that I really believe is true, or at least, instructive. It helps us understand all kinds of important things that we want to understand about what it's like to be human and what it's like to live in this world so I think I get to share a point of view and some

knowledge a lot of people are lacking, but should have.

I think psychology should be a more fundamental aspect of people's educations and its exciting for me to get to share that. The hour-and-a-half twice a week that I lecture, I can feel like I'm doing something in terms of getting people to walk away with some meaningful information that is important and can affect their lives.

What I like about teaching at Hopkins is that the students are fantastic. I've met a lot of great students. Hopkins students are more appreciative of good teaching than other students I've encountered at other places. When I do a good job I often hear about it, when I do [a] not-so-good job I often hear about it too, but usually the students are right.

More importantly, whatever kind of job I'm doing, I feel like I end up with a good back-and-forth with the students in terms of us finding out a way of making sure that everybody understands. It lets me know the students really are engaged and care about what they're learning. I've also managed to recruit lots of excellent students into my lab from teaching, and that's been great too.

NL: What advice would you like to give to your students?

JF: I'll give two pieces of advice. The first one I'll give is about classes in general here at Hopkins. I think students often don't realize how the classes here at Hopkins are different from those they might take at somewhere else. The way they're different from classes in many other places, certainly from classes they took in high school, is that they're being taught by esteemed scholars in the field that they're studying.

If it's a science class, they're taught by scientists, people who run labs and make discoveries. They're here at Hopkins because they've proven excellent at making discoveries, and they've probably already made discoveries that other scientists find important. Now this

doesn't always mean they're going to be extraordinary teachers.

In some sense, what you're paying for is of course the hope that you're going to have good teachers, but people's strengths vary. What you're getting when you come here is also the opportunity to 'hear from the horses mouth,' to get to learn from the people who actually do the things that you're learning about.

Presumably there's something useful to learn from those people, that you couldn't learn otherwise. So my advice to Hopkins students, in all cases, especially in the cases when they feel like their classes are falling short in terms of the professor, stop and ask yourself, 'What can I get out of this class and this person that is different from what I would get somewhere else? How can I take advantage of the fact that the person that I'm learning from is an expert and a producer of the very kinds of knowledge that they're teaching me about?' I think that helps one ultimately get more out of the class than they would otherwise.

The second advice for life that comes from my class is to understand that we're all in some sense machines, that we respond to stimuli. This can be taken as a bleak view of life, but I think of it as the opposite. I think understanding that we're all, at the end of the day, products of stimuli we've encountered in the past and our identities are to some extent just a description of how we would tend to respond to certain stimuli.

I think that's useful as far as encouraging us to extend sympathy and empathy to another. None of us are any less a machine than anybody else. I think that's an important thing to keep in mind when we try to understand other people and try to think about how the to make the world and other people better conform to our ideals.



COURTESY OF JONATHAN FLOMBAUM
Flombaum studies visual perception in the Attention and Cognition Laboratory.

number cognition and audition and I knew exactly who I wanted to work with. Senior year I got a fellowship to study birds in the field and I turned it down at the last minute when I realized, 'Well I know who exactly I want to work with and do my Ph.D. with, why don't I just get started?' So I was very certain about what I wanted to do.

I went onto graduate school at Yale and I worked with a guy named Brian Scholl. It was one of the best decisions I ever made. He was a very smart guy. I knew about him because he was a post-doc when I was an undergraduate. I was his first student. He could have turned out to have been a terrible mentor, but it was a really great relationship. Our interests were similar, but he let me work on what I wanted to build towards.

So I spent six years in graduate school doing a case study about, how, if we knew the formats of some representations, then we could explain some funny aspects about memory, action and other kinds of activities that rely on those representations. I guess I did a good enough job that I was able to go directly from there to a faculty position. Usually people go into post-docs, but I had two job offers; one from University of California at San Diego and here.

Hopkins was really the best place I could imagine to do the work I wanted to do, because the department here is extremely focused. Not that everyone does the same thing, but everyone is interested in the same kinds of problems. It's a great place for me to talk with other people about the kinds of things I care about, and I'm going to end up getting

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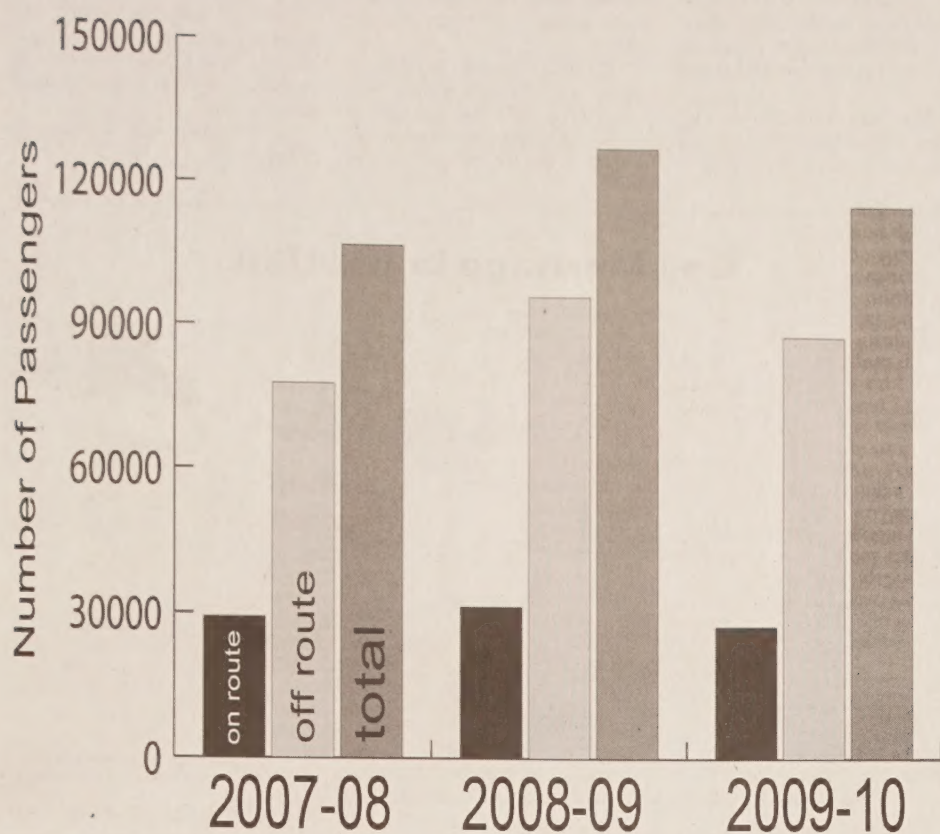
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NEWS & FEATURES

Escort Van Passenger Usage



ANNE FABER / GRAPHICS EDITOR

Escort Vans to implement changes

ESCORT VANS, FROM A1

was for the van to reduce point-to-point calls by creating more routes.

"Right now, way too many people were using the point to point service. People said they were waiting 30 minutes for a van, and that was just unacceptable," Murphy said.

"This is something I've been looking at for a while . . . When we put out the survey and there were over a thousand responses indicating that all the anecdotal evidence that I've heard was certainly supported, it warranted some change."

In the past, the escort van has been under the jurisdiction of the Security department. Major Frank Richardson, coordinator of Escort Services, explained that when the escort van first started running in 1984, the demand was not as high as it has become among students.

The security office is only equipped to hire casual employees (employees that work less hours than part-time employees). Richardson stated that he was glad that the service would be changing over to Transportation because it would allow them to better accommodate the students' needs.

"Transportation will probably be a little more equipped with staff and there will be less restriction on hours. We use a lot of casual employees; they only do a thousand hours a year. With Parking and Transportation, they'll be able to have more hours, even some full-time drivers, so basically you're enabling yourself to have a fuller schedule, more consistency, [and] it's better for students," Richardson said.

"In the beginning, the drivers tell me there were only three or four vans. It's an evolving service because the campus is always expanding."

From 2009-2010, the van service transported a total of 115,686 passengers, with 88,188 utilizing the point-to-point service, and 27,498 students. This is an increase from two years ago where a total of 106,870 students were transported, with 29,135 using routed services and 77,735 using point-to-point.

Smith emphasized that the new escort van will run more like the JHMI shuttle. It will be more route-emphasized, and there is a hope that with a larger radius of route coverage, there will be significantly less point-to-point calls, which should decrease the amount of time students are left waiting.

The Transportation Office has also addressed the complaint that students have about being left to wait indefinitely.

The new escort service is planning to implement tracking devices in each vehicle so that students will be able to track the vans in real-time online as well as check an online schedule to

see how soon a route van will be arriving at their stop.

There are currently 10 vans in the escort fleet, and according to Smith, there are not yet plans to increase the fleet's size. He states the cause as the fact that they do not have enough money in their budget to accommodate the purchase of more buses.

"We're not increasing the fleet; we're going to be deploying more of them on routes. We're trying to run it with basically the same budget, so we're trying to use those budget dollars more effectively," Smith said.

"It is not currently in the plans [to increase fleet]. If demand warrants it, I'm sure the University will re-evaluate that. But the goal now is to carry as many if not more people to more destinations using the resources we have on more fixed routes."

One of the benefits to the service switching to Transportation is that they will be able to consider planning out a route to Hampden. Richardson did say that security had run a trial route to Hampden last semester, but they have since discontinued it.

Many students have noted the recent addition of large Veolia buses occasionally running the escort van routes, but these Veolia buses will not be a part of the changed program under Transportation. It was the Veolia buses that ran the Hampden route.

"We didn't have the manpower to fully staff the Hampden route, [and] we never gave it a full chance to give it a full review. It was just a trial and it was never made public; it was more something we did internally to see how the dispatch could use their discretion on a need basis," Richardson said.

Smith said that currently, there are a few potential routes being considered being added, one of which being a route running to Hampden, a route that runs from the MSE Library through Charles Village and a route that runs down to 22nd street where there are a number of Korean restaurants that students frequent.

The escort van hours will most likely change starting next semester, with routed van service starting earlier.

However, he does plan to switch the balance of routed versus point-to-point vans, with more vans being on routes instead of on point-to-point assignments.

Many students voiced their relief that the service would finally be undergoing a change.

"I'm really happy that they're making the changes. I think they should have done this sooner. I hope to see people that answer your phone calls, and I hope the vans come promptly rather than taking a while to be dispatched," junior Rachel Tillman said.

Senior Joonhee Cho added that the delays in the escort vans really did cause safety concerns. He explained that though he has been using the vans since his freshman year and has only recently had a problem, he became concerned at the service after an incident in which he waited in below freezing temperatures in a dangerous neighborhood for over two hours.

"I repeatedly called them over six times total, and I did send them an email because I honestly thought that if that happened to someone else who had a medical condition or their body was more susceptible — I just didn't think that would be very safe. Also it's not a very safe area to be standing outside," Cho said.

"I agree that a really helpful change would be letting a student caller know by when they'll be able to expect the van coming. I think when you're in a situation where you're outside off campus and it's dark and you're by yourself, there is a difference between a person telling you it'll come when it gets there and you need to wait, and telling you it'll be there in x minutes."

Others expressed that their previous frustrations with the escort van would never change their perception of the service.

"Most of it's waiting for 30 minutes in front of Uni Mini, in the rain, calling a billion times. I hate it and I don't even use it anymore; it's not worth it," senior Greg Schlichter said.

"It's Hopkins: they're gonna hear the complaints, and then they're going to mess it up somehow."

In addition, some students felt that even if route service increases, they would still use point-to-point calls just because they feel safer that way and it's just more convenient than looking up a schedule.

"I know that route vans exist, but I always call for point-to-point, even if I know it's on a route because I don't want to wait for the route van and I'm not sure exactly what times the vans come. Also, sometimes I'm just too lazy to check the schedule," junior Charles Duyk said.

Senior Tian Han agreed.

"I always use point-to-point except when I'm at the Rotunda when I know that the shuttle runs really often there. With the changes, I'll probably use the shuttle service less if it means I'll have to wait longer for point-to-point service," he said.

The Transportation department will be holding a contest to rename the van service in the upcoming weeks.

Some options suggested by the SGA are The Blue Jay Shuttle, The Homewood Area Shuttle, The Night HopShuttle, The Hop Shuttle, and The Jay Shuttle. Students can vote on their favorite choice at www.surveymonkey.com/s/yzn6dyq.

Woodward inspires students with anecdotes

FAS Speaker offers humorous insight on White House frequenters

WOODWARD, FROM A1

hidden part is the most important. Or maybe it isn't."

Former Vice President Al Gore had a different percentage of how much the public knew about the inner workings of the White House when Woodward sat next to him at a dinner party, placing the number at 1 percent. Gore used to be a journalist ("he thinks he invented that, too," Woodward quipped) and thinks that even with the steadfast efforts of political journalists the public will never know the vast majority of what happens behind the scenes.

"I asked him what would happen if he published a tell-all memoir about his time [under Clinton]," Woodward said. "He told me then it would be closer to 2 percent."

"Then I had a very unclean thought. I immediately thought: are there really that many women we don't know about?"

Although the 67-year-old has and remains an extremely active investigative reporter since the 1970s, Woodward will forever be associated with the Watergate scandal and the Oscar-winning 1976 film based on his book of the same name, *All the President's Men*, where Woodward and longtime partner Carl Bernstein were played by Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman, respectively.

Answering a question from the audience, Woodward reiterated that the film was an incredibly accurate depiction of the events leading up to Nixon's resignation.

"They built a replica *Washington Post* newsroom in Hollywood and actually imported trash from Washington to Hollywood to give it authenticity," he said.

But the realism of the picture did not impress Woodward's teenage daughter, who described the film as "boring, boring, boring" and noted that Redford did not look a thing like her father.

Woodward delivered a sobering and serious warning about the power, influence and seriousness of a "secret government" operating behind the scenes in America politics.

He predicts that such a force, if allowed to proliferate, could spell the end of America as we know it.

"Democracy dies in the dark," he said. "If there is a secret government, then we're screwed."

The crowd-pleasing Woodward also entertained with stories about prominent politicians and celebrities he had encountered throughout his decades

long career in Washington.

When Woodward asked former President George W. Bush how he thought history would view his decision to invade Iraq, Bush merely shrugged. "I don't know. We'll all be dead," Bush said.

Hilary Clinton, hearing of Bush's fatalistic outlook on the war, approached Woodward extremely animated and complained that an American president could not have a fatalistic outlook on life.

"She said: 'George Washington wouldn't say that, Thomas Jefferson wouldn't say that, Bill wouldn't say that,'" Woodward said. "I just thought of a new Mount Rushmore: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Bill."

Woodward opened the event up to questions early, responding to queries ranging from the Watergate Scandal to looking forward to the future of journalism in an age where the Internet saps much of the traditional revenue that newspapers use to fund extravagant investigative efforts.

He maintains that journalism remains a viable career path for young people entering into the professional world.

"If there's life on Mars, and Martians came to America for one

den?' So you're always working on things that are not routine. If you're a doctor or a lawyer you can get a whole day or week of boredom. Journalism goes for the jugular."

Woodward recognizes that there are financial shortcomings to the current business model attached to newspapers — but he doesn't know how to fix it.

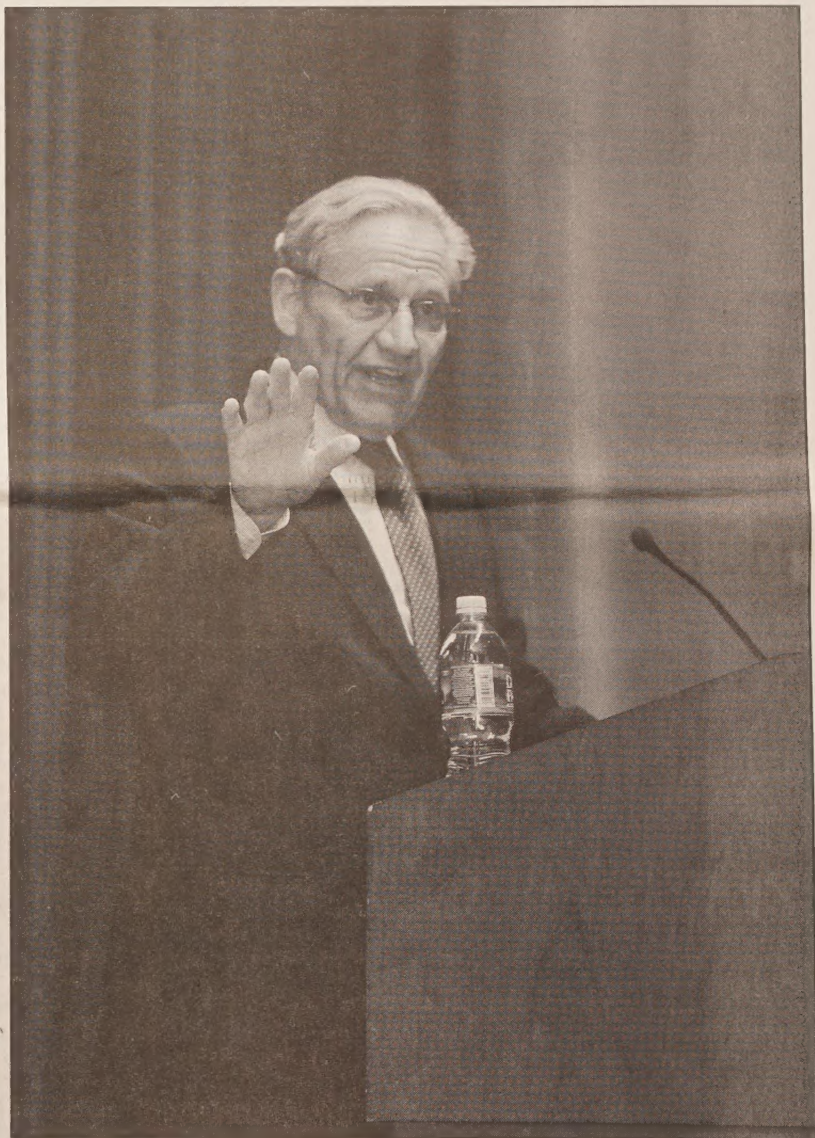
"Your generation is going to figure it out. The Google's, the Facebook's, Microsoft's . . . people are going to come along and develop new business models," he said.

"I don't have the answers. But you're going to. Because it's necessary. You've got to have the information — if not, democracy dies."

Woodward completed his latest book, *Obama's Wars*, a detailed account of how Obama is dealing with the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, late last year. He has not announced a new project, although he is still active in the day to day running of the *Washington Post*.

Student response to the event was overwhelmingly positive.

"I thought he was a great speaker," freshman David Silberstein said. "He was interesting and had a lot of very important things to say. It made me appreciate the modern journalist's role



EDDIE WANG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Woodward is greeted with cheers from the students and holds their attention for the entire session.

year, when they went back they would say journalists have the best job in the country," he said in an interview after the show. "They get to make momentary entries into people's lives when they're interesting and get out when they cease to be interesting."

You go into the newsroom in the morning and you get, 'What's going on? What don't we know? What has meaning? What's hid-

in society more."

Even though he's approaching 70, the most famous journalist of our time isn't done exposing the shady back dealings of Washington yet.

On why journalists are, and forever will be, vitally needed for democracy to thrive in any country, Woodward puts it best.

"As the saying goes, no one is a villain in their own diary."

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NEWS & FEATURES

Driver of car that hit student is preliminarily found to be of no fault

BIKE ACCIDENT, FROM A1
around it," Ma said. "I walked past the car and then I turned around and saw the bike under the car. I asked how long he had been under there and if EMS and the fire department has been called — they would need a jack to get the car off Nathan."

Ma tried to check to see if Krasnopoler was breathing and if he could get a pulse.

"I got down on the ground by the car," Ma said. "He was basically spread-eagled by the car and the only access was to his left arm. I checked to see if he was breathing, bodily movement, and I checked for a pulse. I couldn't tell if he was breathing. His face and upper torso were pinned under the engine block. After I examined that I noticed there was a little hand movement. I got down and checked his pulse. I didn't get a pulse. Two of my friends from HERO [Hopkins Emergency Response Organization] arrived. As soon as they got there they asked about who had been called, etc. and they checked his pulse — they also got no pulse."

Juniors Hannah Joo and Justin Porter were also on the scene of the accident. Joo went down on the ground to look at Krasnopoler.

"I got down and looked under the front of the car and it was kind of upsetting because I thought maybe he was just lying under the car and we could move it or something," Joo said. "But he was trapped by his head. His helmet was against the pavement. It was really good that he was wearing a helmet."

Joo and Porter also told the driver to turn the engine off.

"The car was actually still on when we first got there," Joo said. "And this guy who I think was maybe the son of the man who was calling 911, he said 'maybe we should turn the car off' and nobody heard him. We went over and got the keys from the woman, and told her to turn her car off."

Moses said that the police report does not indicate whether the driver had her turn signal on. And nothing more can be known about the driver, beyond her age, because the case, so far, is not a criminal case.

"Preliminarily, it did not look as if the driver was at fault," Moses said. "No citations have been

year of high school," Solomon said. "Dean Boswell has been very helpful with accommodations and talking with professors via email. It's been tough. I'm still at school. A lot of friends are being really supportive. And we're all hoping for the best."

Tracey Reeves, director of the Office of News and Information at Hopkins, said that the Hopkins community is providing support for Krasnopoler and his family in any way they can.

"Johns Hopkins is providing whatever support they can as the family needs to speak with anyone; we are there for them," Reeves said.

"Susan Boswell has been in contact with the family that is

providing support. Also the University's counseling services are available to anyone who knows Nathan and may need to talk to someone."

Krasnopoler's accident comes on the coattails of the sentencing of Thomas Meighan this past February.

Meighan was the serial drunk driver who, in the fall of 2009, struck and killed Hopkins student Miriam Frankl. Krasnopoler's accident happened only a few blocks away from Frankl's.

Despite these two incidents, Reeves said there has been no dialogue that she knows of between the University and the city to improve crossings and crossing safety.

After hearing of Krasnopoler's cycling accident, Hopkins Cycling Club president Adam Zeldin sent an email out to the Cycling Club to alert them of Krasnopoler's accident. Though Zeldin neither knows Krasnopoler nor the details of his accident, he said he himself has found that intersection to be unsafe.

"Firstly, I would say that that intersection is a very dangerous spot to ride," he said. "I personally have had several close to very close encounters. It's poorly designed and drivers don't treat it with the respect it needs, meaning people just kind of cruise through the turn arrow as it's turning off, posing a risk to oncoming traffic and cyclists. Additionally, people take those right turns onto 39th very dangerously."

"My personal take is that it's another haunting reminder that you've got to be really careful out there. You've got to be careful and cars need to be better at looking out for cyclists." At this time, Zeldin says the cycling club has no plans to do anything in light of the situation. "We have had general plans to have a cycling skills clinic for the general Hopkins community for a while," Zeldin said.

"We haven't planned it out. There's nothing immediate on

the horizon. I'd really like to see a protected bike lane on University, though. It would help cyclists — a bike lane that is protected from both parked cars and travel lanes."

Zeldin said that he in no way blames Krasnopoler for the accident, and is not implying he is

irresponsible. In light of the incident, however, Zeldin offered some safety reminders for cyclists.

"If you're going to ride at night, it's imperative that you ride with a light that's visible in the front and the back. Keep your reflectors on the bike if you're

going to be riding at night, [and] ride with a helmet."

And I ride with this rule [where] I assume the car doesn't see me. And that's saved my life probably three times at that intersection."

— Additional reporting done by Wang Jae Rhee



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The accident occurred on Saturday on West University and 39th at around 11 A.M.

issued. The investigation is still ongoing."

The family is keeping maintenance of a Facebook page that is periodically updated with information on Krasnopoler. The description section of the page states that: "This page is for Nathan's family and friends. Nathan was in a bad bike accident on Saturday, Feb. 26, 2011. He is in critical condition, in a coma at Johns Hopkins Hospital."

Sophomore Sophie Solomon, a close friend of Krasnopoler, said that the family is trying to keep



MORGAN YANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Krasnopoler was struck by a car in the marked intersection.

the matter as private as possible.

"The family is very thankful for all the support from Hopkins, from the student body, the faculty, the community, the cyclists, but they're not necessarily ready for a lot of visitors yet," Solomon said.

Solomon added that the week has been difficult for her, as she and Nathan are very close.

"He was my best friend in high school — since freshman



Same-sex marriage passes through MD senate

GAY MARRIAGE, FROM A1
thousands of its families never forget that they are outsiders, that they are not quite equal," Madaleno said.

Madaleno was one of the spearheads for those in favor of the bill.

Countering Madaleno's ideas is Republican Delegate Don Dwyer Jr. The day after the passage of the Civil Marriage Protection Act in the Senate, a House of Delegates panel heard testimony on whether the bill should be considered in the House.

Dwyer asked others to consider their faith when voting and preceded this with a prayer to open his presentation to the panel. Dwyer wishes for a vote to be put to the people of Md. to decide the issue.

Despite adamant Republican Dwyer's incorporation of religion into the issue, not all Republicans share his view.

"I believe that gays are entitled to the same legal and financial rights that a heterosexual couple would be entitled to," Hopkins College Republicans President senior Michael Riecken said.

"I'm happy that they're making progress in Maryland on the issue."

Riecken also said that the College Republicans considered discussing the issue with the College Democrats, but that there weren't any differences in opinion over which a debate could be had, describing marriage as a "universal right."

"We are very open-minded and very accepting," Riecken said.

College Republicans member junior Adam Merritt agreed with what Riecken had to say.

"The College Republicans at Johns Hopkins are not the reli-

gious right . . . as far as I know, all of the College Republicans at Johns Hopkins support [same-sex marriage] . . . The only thing that I care about related to this issue is federalism, that each state has a right to choose for itself."

Currently same sex marriages are not recognized federally, but same-sex couples can marry in the states of Conn., Iowa, Mass., N.H., and Vt. and in the District of Columbia.

In N.Y., R.I. and Md., states recognize civil unions and/or marriages performed in other states without recognizing any same-sex marriages that would potentially occur within their borders.

Freshman Erika Rodriguez, member of JHU's Diverse Sexuality and Gender Alliance (DSAGA) voiced similar opinions.

"I think that everybody has the right to marry who they want to marry. I feel like it's nobody's right to take that away from anybody," Rodriguez said.

The recent passing of the Civil Marriage Protection Act in the Maryland Senate was discussed at DSAGA's last meeting, and the bill will continue to be a topic of discussion as the group awaits the decision of the House of Delegates, according to Rodriguez.

Although the group supports the passing of the bill, it also recognizes that while marriage is not what all homosexuals want, having the choice is extremely important.

"A lot of people wish to get married, [and] some don't. It's just like straight [couples] . . . but if people want to, they should have the opportunity to do so," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez and Marratti also both noted the presence of the

Women, Gender and Sexuality program at Hopkins, but that the program is smaller than it should be.

"The Women, Gender and Sexuality program only offers a minor, so there's only so many classes that Hopkins can offer with a minor, and the classes they do offer are only of about 15 students," said Rodriguez.

Problems have arisen due to these class sizes, as Rodriguez went on to comment that classes of only 15 have meant that people who have wanted to take these classes haven't had the chance to do so once it fills, which happens very quickly.

This is part of the reason why she doesn't believe that there are enough classes offered in the Women, Gender and Sexuality department.

She believes that an expansion could allow students interested in the subject to pursue more opportunities, and would also perhaps expand the student body's understanding of sexual and gender issues.

Despite Marratti's approval of the passing of the bill and the apparent growing interest of the student body in issues related to sexual orientation, she believes that it has not been fully developed in the way that it could be.

"There are not enough classes pertaining to these subjects for the simple reason that there are not enough faculty who are working on these issues, and those who cannot always offer classes on these topics because of the teaching requirements of their departments," Marratti wrote.

"WGS is doing everything it can with its limited resources . . . but much more could and should be done."

SECURITY ALERTS

Theft in the Fresh Food Café

At 2:45 p.m. on Feb. 28th a freshman left her wallet unattended on a bathroom sink. When she came back to find it, it was missing. The investigation is still ongoing.

CORRECTIONS

In last week's article on A2, "The Lottery proves controversial," every time the writer wrote liberals it is libertarians.

In last week's article on A1, "eTextbooks arrive at B&N receive mixed reviews," the writer's name was spelled incorrectly. His name is spelled Fawaz Ahmed.

The News-Letter regrets these errors.

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Second semester is prime socializing time

Spring semester is by far my favorite semester, and in terms of meeting new people, it should be yours, too. Let me explain. The freshmen are finally settling into life at Hopkins and are starting to explore the social life here beyond just the dirty basements of frat houses. And right as the freshmen are getting used to their work, second semester seniors stop doing all of theirs. Spring semester is really a perfect storm of exploring freshmen, laid-back seniors, newly-pledged Greek Life members and, hopefully, great weather.

Mike McKenna
Guest Sex Columnist

If the first semester of freshman year is about getting to know your roommates and the people on your floor, then the second semester is about finding everyone else at Hopkins. Second semester freshmen are starting to explore Hopkins's different milieus and intermingle with more upperclassmen. You'll be surprised: after winter all sorts of people you never knew existed come out in flocks. My advice is to just get out and start meeting people if for no other reason than to make a few new friends.

Coincidentally, sorority and fraternity pledging starts during spring semester and with it comes more date parties, more closed parties and more formals. Oddly enough, this is good news for everyone in and outside of Greek Life because with rush comes a better and more diverse nightlife. More people going out to more places means more options come Saturday night. Now people's weekends won't depend so much on which fraternity is having a party, but rather on who's going to PJ's, Federal Hill, a date party or that concert down the street. In other words, you can meet everyone Hopkins has to offer, not just the people in some overpacked and overheated basement.

Spring semester is perfect for meeting people because there are so many excuses to get out there and mingle. And really that's what I hope happens this semester; I want different people, classes, majors and so on to start mingling. Hopkins isn't that bad once you leave D level or lab, and if nothing else, spring brings with it great excuses to get out of library.

You may think that relaxing on the Beach just because it's warm out is idiotic. Fine. But why not just go with it and realize there are 200 people there, a quarter of them in bikinis, looking to

meet people? If lying on the Beach sounds asinine and utterly ridiculous to you, please for everyone's sake keep your pessimism and pale self on C level. But if you actually want to enjoy all the different facets of college then come on out.

Like I said earlier, spring brings with it Greek recruitment and pledging. I understand there's a large faction of Hopkins students who hate Greek Life, but there's no denying it provides great and easy ways to meet new people.

However stupid you might think formals or date parties are (I can't stand sorority songs either), suck it up. They're a really easy way to meet people and the worst case scenario is that you waste a few hours trying something new. I know it can be awkward going out with 80 girls or 80 guys you don't know well, but at least give it a shot.

Spring semester has too many mixers, date parties, pub nights and concerts not to meet some new people in and outside of Greek Life. There are hundreds of great, funny and interesting people here, hiding in their dorm rooms and cubicles, that need to get out and realize that Hopkins isn't all that bad. So the next time it's 80 degrees and sunny outside, pick up your lawn chair and that oddly colored bottle of "Diet Coke" and get to the Beach.

When your dress code becomes your zipcode

How personal style and clothing choice reveals your hometown

A girl's clothes say a lot about her — her taste level, what type of image she wants to project to others and even where she is from.

Within the United States, there are many different groups of people — for our purposes let's look at the most prevalent groups at Hopkins (and those whose clothing stand out the most) — those from Calif., those from the South (including Fla.), those from the East Coast or New England and those from Europe.

Californians are easy to spot in certain situations, particularly when it is cold and/or wet out. When it first hits 40 degrees, a person from Calif. always brings out their heavy winter coat, a hat and gloves.

This is a phenomena often witnessed at Hopkins where Calif. people actually experience such frigid temperatures for the first time. And as the first to bring out the winter gear, they are also first to bring out the summer gear.

As soon as it hits 50 degrees, the Calif. kids start wearing shorts. However, I can attest to the fact that not all freshmen come prepared for winter.

You can tell who the unprepared Californians are because you see them walking around wearing a ridiculous number of layers because they don't own a substantial coat.

You can also spot the unprepared Californians around campus when it rains. They are the kids that don't have rain boots or umbrellas and are consequently jumping over puddles and running for their lives.

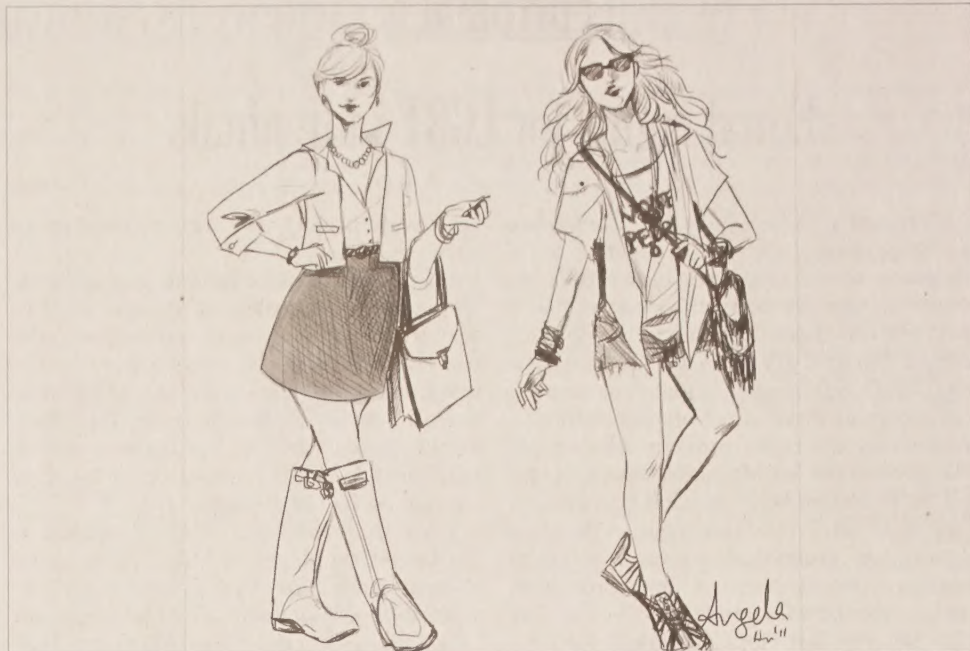
During the summer they more or less fit in with the rest of the flip-flop/sunglasses wearing population, but if you look carefully, you'll notice that they pull off the look better. I don't know why this is, and can only guess the obvious reason — that they have summer year round.

Southern girls are similar to Calif. girls in their comical winter attire, but are otherwise very different.

While Californians rock the laid-back look, Southerners are always dressed to impress. Sweatpants are simply not an option.

Girls from the South tend to look like they spend hours getting ready each morning, and some probably do. You can laugh all you want, but you have to admit, they look good.

I can almost always pick a



ANGELA HU/GRAPHICS STAFF

New England girl out of a lineup. She can never be seen in the winter without her two staple items — a North Face jacket and Ugg boots.

If you ask, she might tell you that she isn't preppy, and

walk away quickly before you notice her shirt from J.Crew, her cashmere sweater and her pearl earrings. During spring and summer, girls from New England love to rock a sundress or khaki/white shorts with a flowery blouse.

New Yorkers tend to be a little different from your average East Coast

girls. Living in the most fashionable state around puts a lot of pressure on a girl to stand out and have her own style.

The result is that there is a state full of hipsters. You often see them walking around Soho with their big glasses, a slouchy plaid shirt and ripped skinny jeans.

This is of course not the only type of New Yorker — there are many that embody the preppy stereotype so common to the rest of the East Coast as well.

And let's not forget about the Europeans! They are usually the easiest to spot. They have a sense of style that most American girls envy and try to emulate — but it usually doesn't work.

It's as if Europeans are born with an innate sense of style that none of the rest of us have access to.

European girls are the only ones I know who can actually pull off suspenders, for example. Europeans are also experts at layering and matching — their outfits often strike me as pieces of art.

A French friend of mine once told me when I made fun of his capri pants that France was a full six months ahead of the U.S. in fashion (and yet some five years later the trend hasn't quite caught on — I think we can all consider ourselves lucky).

Americans are likewise very easy to spot in Europe — if you plan to study abroad in Europe, pay attention! We seem to be the

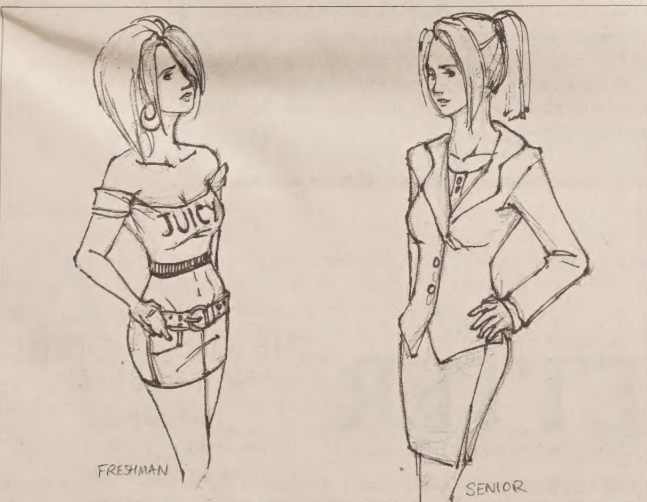
only ones (along with the Canadians and Australians) who wear plaid and madras shorts. Another dead giveaway is the Uggs with jeans look (a big no-no if you want to blend in in Europe).

And as I recently found out on a trip to Turkey, if you wear cowboy boots, everyone is going to assume that you are from Texas (which is risky because regardless of your personal political views, you have to realize that most people in other countries are not a big fan of George W. Bush).

Want to wear something to impress/confuse the Europeans? Try high-waisted pants or shorts — they make a bold statement and are something the Europeans do not expect from Americans.

So try this: as you walk around campus, try to guess where everyone you see is from.

Sometimes it's easy to tell and sometimes it isn't, and this column is obviously full of very broad and at times comical stereotypes, but I think you'll be surprised by how true some of them are.



AVA YAP/GRAPHICS STAFF

Working out for dummies: the basics

With Jan. 1st long gone, the wave of "New Year's Resolutions" has passed, so if you're reading this, congratulations: you're obviously in it for the long haul (or at least until after spring break).

Every experienced gym-goer knows what it is like to be a beginner to working out; the Athletic Center can be an intimidating place, what with the meatheads walking around gulping protein shakes and lifting dumbbells that weigh more than your entire body.

Don't worry; we've all been there at some point, and even the meatiest of meatheads knows that everyone has to begin somewhere. If you're just starting out on your quest to get that body you've always desired, whether you want to become lean enough to fit into your new hipster jeans or as muscle-bound like The Situation, here are some general guidelines to follow.

1. Set a goal

Do you want to simply lose weight or do you want to pack on the muscle? It's vital to set a goal for yourself before you begin your training. If you want to lose that gut before spring break, you know you'll have to spend a lot of time doing cardio. If your primary goal is to pack on the muscle, however, you will want to limit the amount of cardio you perform to a few times per week for optimal muscle growth.

Depending on your purpose for weight-lifting, various other aspects of your lifestyle may change. Diets for body toning differ from those of body slim-

ming. Keep this in mind. This leads to the next point.

2. Pay attention to your DIET!

Nobody wants to hear it, but a great physique is made in the kitchen. Now that you have a goal in mind, you can fit your diet around your needs. And this is where what I call the "Fundamental Fitness Equation" (or FFE as it is also known) comes in:

Calories In - Calories Used = Total Calories

Everybody has a "maintenance" calorie number, which is the number of total calories your body needs to maintain its current state. This exact number varies for everybody based on age, size and metabolism, but generally, this number hovers around 2,000 for guys and 1,600 for girls.

So it's simple; if you want to lose weight, the total calories you end up with in a day should be lower than your maintenance number. If you want to gain muscle, your total calories should be higher than your maintenance number.

And whether you're trying to lose or gain weight, you'll find optimal results with a diet high in protein, moderate in carbohydrates and low in fat.

3. Switch it up

Yes, consistency is wonderful, but consistency does not mean rigidity! One of the most impor-

tant skills for an aspiring gym expert to hone is the ability to vary his or her workout to avoid falling into a rut. Instead of running on the treadmill or elliptical every time you need a cardio sesh, try running outside for a change, or even get

in a game of basketball; nothing works up a sweat like running up and down the full-length court, and you don't even realize you're doing it. Music choice is also an excellent distractor in which ever workout situation you are in.

The same goes for the weight room; not only will switching up your routine keep you from becoming bored, but it will also shock your muscles and trigger growth. If you ever hit a plateau in your muscle-building endeavors, chances are it's time to change your routine.

4. Leave your ego at the door

This is where most gym noobies completely lose it. It's easy to be intimidated by the guy next to you bench-pressing 300 pounds; you feel a little embarrassed by the weight you are able to lift, so you unwisely pick up the 40-pound dumbbells instead of the 30-pound ones. Dumb move. Leave. Your. Ego. At. The. Door.

Nobody is expecting you to be as strong as the more experienced gym-goers, so there is no need to be ashamed. In weight-lifting, form is absolutely crucial; doing an exercise with incorrect form is simply a waste of time and energy.

So pick up those 30-pounders and put them up with flawless form; the meatheads will respect you more for lifting lighter with control than for flailing heavy weights around with reckless abandon.

A cupcake recipe to die—and nom—for

Whenever I eat something delicious, I say "Om nom nom nom." Saying this started as a joke just to make my friends laugh, but after doing it so many times it has become a habit. Now it just feels natural to "nom" after a delicious treat. After first hearing me say this, people just brush it off as one of my weird little quirks. However, before they know it, my friends' too are "nomming." My friend and I even started a food blog called "Om Nom Nom Nom" after our favorite saying.

The saying originated from Sesame Street. "Om nom nom nom" is the sound Cookie Monster makes when he eats cookies. I have always been a fan of Cookie Monster and I owe him big time for coining one of my favorite phrases. To show our gratitude, my friend and I decided to make Cookie Monster cupcakes for a friend's birthday party.

They were so cute I almost didn't want to eat them, but I eventually gave in and I'm glad I did because they were delicious. These

cupcakes are a great treat for a special occasion. With a little bit of work, it is possible to transform a simple cupcake into an adorable and delicious Cookie Monster!

Start by making the cupcakes.

Ingredients:
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup butter
2 eggs
3 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt
2 cups flour
1 cup milk
1 tsp vanilla

Directions:
1. Blend the sugar, butter and eggs in a small bowl.
2. Mix the baking powder, salt and flour in a large bowl.

3. Pour the sugar mixture into the baking powder mixture and add 1 cup milk and 1 tsp vanilla.

4. Set the oven to 350 degrees. Line cupcake sheets with cupcake liners.

5. Put the cupcakes in the oven for 15-20 minutes and check them with a toothpick.

While the cupcakes bake,

make the buttermilk frosting.

Ingredients:
1 cup butter
1 tsp vanilla extract
4 cups Confectioners' sugar
2 tbsp lowfat milk
Blue food dye

Directions:
1. Mix together the butter, vanilla, sifted sugar and milk.
2. Add in food dye drop by drop and mix until you're satisfied with the appropriate blue.

Now it's time to bring out the Cookie Monster. Let the cupcakes cool and then start decorating.

Ingredients:
Brown M&Ms
White Candy Melts
Mini chocolate chips cookies (preferably homemade).

1. First, cut a slit in the cupcake to make room for the cookie.
2. Place a cookie in the slit.
3. Frost the rest of the cupcake.
4. Push the candy melts into the cake and then place the M&Ms in front of the candy melts (M&M side away) to create the eyes.

And that's it! This has been one of my favorite projects and it was a big hit with my friends. Go try it and enjoy! They're bound to make you "om nom nom nom."

Allison Borko
Guest Food Columnist

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

EDITORIALS

Equal rights for LGBT individuals

Maryland's House Judiciary Committee is edging closer to a vote on whether to allow same-sex marriage. However, if the state congress votes for equal marriage rights, it will have only taken one step in the right direction. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals frequently face social and economic discrimination that cannot be resolved by the right to marry. The people and government of Md. must take a bolder and more comprehensive stand on equality. They must pass an amendment to the state constitution guaranteeing everyone equal protection under the law and protection from economic discrimination — and this page believes that Hopkins should lead the way.

There are myriad areas in which LGBT people are denied equal rights. In a 2007 report by the University of California School of Law, gay men earn 10-32 percent less than heterosexual men, and transgender people have a substantially higher unemployment rate in comparison to the general population. In addition, the report aggregated dozens of studies which found that as many as 40 percent of LGBT individuals had experienced workplace discrimination.

Though there is some legislation protecting LGBT individuals, they are still fired, refused work, denied housing and credit and generally harassed in some work and community environments. They are currently treated as second-class citizens and the law often provides them no recourse. Any rights-based democracy that allows society, government and businesses to legally discriminate against a class of its citizens is unjust. Congress should not be allowed to

selectively protect only certain members of societies.

By passing an amendment guaranteeing all people — regardless of physical traits or sexual orientation — equal protection under the law and freedom from economic discrimination, the state will have eliminated the need to select specific issues for which to extend equality. All restrictions against LGBT people would be in direct violation of the highest law of the state.

Excluding the state itself, Hopkins is the largest employer in Md. It holds more clout than any other single organization. As such, it should actively advocate for issues in which it believes. The University, hospital and labs have committed themselves to equality for employees and students alike. Hopkins, which is an equal opportunity employer, has worked toward equal rights on its own accord. However, this is not always the case for other employers and businesses in Md. The editorial staff of *The News-Letter* believes it is crucial that the University not separate itself from the state as a whole on this issue. It should elevate the issue of LGBT discrimination and take a stand in favor of an amendment guaranteeing meaningful equality.

In many ways Hopkins is a force for good. It stimulates local economies and helps revitalize neighborhoods of Baltimore. It consults the city on health issues and is a leading research university committed to improving people's quality of life. In this vein, it should lead the fight for an equal society for everybody. One day, LGBT people will be treated fairly and with respect. Hopkins can make that day come sooner.

Anne Faber



The News-Letter extends well wishes to Nathan Krasnopoler, his family and his friends during this difficult time.

LETTERS' POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be e-mailed to chiefs@jhnewsletter.com for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of *The News-Letter*. *The News-Letter* reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include contact information and cannot be anonymous. *The News-Letter* reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

Escort vans must prioritize safety

Recently, the Hopkins Escort Van service has announced that it will be undergoing a series of changes following a proposal by the SGA. Currently, students are often forced to endure a long wait for security vans, and though the new plan will include route increases, *The News-Letter* feels that these changes will not address the core of the issue.

In response to the lengthy lag time between calling for a van and the arrival of a van, the Hopkins Security Office has decided to implement additional routes that will stop at a variety of popular apartment buildings and destinations around campus. The routes aim to reduce point-to-point calls so the vans can be more efficient and can arrive more quickly.

There are currently 10 vans in the escort fleet and unfortunately this is not enough. It is much too difficult to design van routes that are comprehensive and can attend to the multitude of locations people call from and intend to go to. In addition, even if a person's current location is on a route, he might be going to a destination that is not on the route. This leaves three possible options. First, the student could call for a point-to-point van and defeat the very purpose of route vans. Second, he could get dropped off at one location and wait for another van to pick him up. This could leave the student in a dangerous place where he would have to wait for two vans rather than one. Third, the van could veer from its route and drop the student off at his optimal location. In this case, the entire route system would become a disaster.

These problems are likely to emerge no matter how comprehensive the van routes are. Another point to note is that the more van routes there are, the fewer vans there are to run those routes. If there are eight routes, there must be eight vans to attend to each route and two vans left for point-to-point calls. In this case, a student might be left waiting a very long time for the van to finish an entire route before picking him up. The less comprehensive the routes are, the less likely the routes will be useful to students.

Any system that emphasizes routes over point-to-point calls is doomed to fail. Even if the administrators of the vans found a comprehensive way to approach van routes, it seems unlikely that students will be more likely to turn to routes. Students are not generally familiar with van routes, and in many cases, their location or destination may not be on the same route. Similarly, they might need to walk a ways to get close to the nearest van route and then walk a ways to get from the drop off point to their final destination. As a consequence, these students will often prefer calling a point-to-point van. These problems are unlikely to go away; thus, it is unlikely that students will want to switch over to using route vans more than point-to-point vans.

Fortunately, there is a solution to the van dilemma: increase the number of vans and change the focus of the vans from routes to point-to-point travel. This will be a costly but necessary change.

The best reason for the van service is safety. Baltimore is a dangerous city, and crimes tend to happen in the dark. When a student has to wait outside for an escort van, he is a prime target for criminals. Vans sometimes take so long that students decide to walk through dangerous parts of the city on their way to their respective destinations. Last semester, a graduate student was killed walking to his residence. Many other students have been robbed or threatened with violence in recent years. In spite of the clear dangers associated with a small and over-burdened fleet of security vans, the University has not responded with the urgency and efficiency that *The News-Letter* feels is merited.

Routes are the problem and not the solution. The reason that the van service is slow is because there are not enough vans to accommodate demand. The University needs to acclimate itself to this fact and act to expand the van fleet. A few more vans is a small price to pay for the safety of the Hopkins community.

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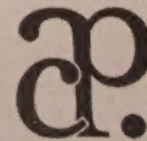
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OPINIONS

Ian Scott

Bridging the gap: reconning the American people with the military

On Tuesday, during his speech at Hopkins, world-renowned journalist Bob Woodward spoke of an “epidemic of disconnection” between the American populace and the U.S. Military. In order to understand how the tremendously important tie between the people and their armed forces has frayed, it is imperative to delve into America’s history.

In the earliest part of the United States’ history, the armed forces were composed of conscripted militias. Also, the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the Mexican-American War were all fought on home soil — not to mention the need for militias to protect Americans from hostile Native Americans.

World War I and World War II were so world-threatening that citizens had to be involved directly in the war effort, either directly serving in the military or supporting in industry or by making clothes and weapons for the troops. Also, there was the belief that the ground war would have come to American soil if we did not aggressively and wholeheartedly attack the enemies on their soil.

Today, it is true that terrorist attacks have occurred on American soil, but they are different. While they do stir up nationalistic pride, their isolated nature and the difficulty in fighting back makes it more difficult for Americans to get invested in the military.

The contemporary American citizenry does not have to fear military invasion and foreign subjugation as much as in the past or in other countries today. America has never been like France or Germany — our isolated geography makes us feel safer and less concerned with neighboring powers than we would if we were located in the middle of Europe.

Furthermore, America has always been relatively self-sufficient. America has always been economically interdependent with, but not reliant upon others. America has always benefitted from international trade, but can produce its own food and products. Only recently has America become a net importer and not a net exporter.

Because civilians do not feel the pain of a war as much as it used to, Americans don’t feel as though they are about to be overrun and therefore don’t care about the army.

This leads into the main issue with this disconnect between the citizenry

and the military: America has a professional army.

This has not always been the case. During the Vietnam War, there was a draft. But it was only until the U.S. start-

tary decisions that the country makes and the military is not held sufficiently accountable for the wars it enters and the money it spends.

While the vast majority of Ameri-

lower-middle class small towns, primarily in the South and Midwest. Instead of lamenting the hypocrisies of this truth, we should accept it. Well-off people with better education do not join the military

ments only exacerbates this problem.

Furthermore, talking about unpopular and perhaps unjustified wars is a political hot topic that most politicians avoid for the most part, only talking about it when necessary.

The question remains: how do we stop this rift from growing? One way would be Israel’s method — mandatory military service for all men and women with very few exceptions. In America, it is impossible and unnecessary to recreate that situation. Israel is a tiny country surrounded by enemies. It would be too expensive and excessive to replicate that in a country of America’s size. And creating an armed citizenry in such a diverse country as the U.S. would be controversial, to say the least.

What America needs to do is look at how other societies have involved their militaries. Compare the military triumphs in Rome to the receptions American veterans receive. While some Americans get accolades for their service, more end up with physical injuries or psychological ones, like Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, in underfunded, under-appreciated VA hospitals.

Most Americans say they support the troops, but the most they are willing to do for them is attach a bumper sticker to their cars. It is time to move beyond the lip service.

In order for America’s civilian population to maintain its connection with its military, Americans need to take more initiative in understanding military operations and recognizing the sacrifices of its military. Otherwise, this growing rift could expand until the military ceases to be connected to the American population at all and just becomes in effect a mercenary army.

Ian Scott is a freshman International Studies and economics double major from New York, N.Y. He is the Opinions editor for The News-Letter.



CAROLINE BLEGGI/STAFF

ed limiting the exemptions from the draft that the great part of the American population took notice. As soon as college kids got drafted, college protests happened. Young people today do not have to worry about the draft and therefore care less about the operations of the military.

While the disconnect is a big problem for America, that does not mean that a draft should be reinstated so that the populace becomes more invested. Having a professional army is a military necessity in this day and age. In fact, all the best armies in the history of civilization have been professional: from Sparta to Prussia to the British Empire. Additionally, the weapons and other technology used by the military mandate a professional army.

There are two reasons that we civilians need to be more connected to the military. First, veterans who return from war do not receive the right amount of recognition and treatment. Second, Americans are less invested in the mili-

cans think that the government is right to spend the amount of money it needs to protect its citizens, this amount is not clear. With a more scrutinizing population, it is very likely that America would spend its defense budget more wisely.

In the same way, most Americans respect the right of the military to enter into armed conflicts with other countries to protect the country’s interests, but most do not stop to think about all of the reasons and details of the conflicts in which our government engages.

The blame for the disconnect does not lie entirely on the side of the general population. The military has tried to limit the amount of information the American citizenry receives about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. During the Bush era, the army even disallowed pictures of dead American soldiers being honorably brought back to America from being shown.

The fact of the matter is that without a draft, the majority of soldiers come from

large numbers, nor should they. They can better serve the country and themselves by pursuing other occupations. On the other hand, military service is an attractive offer for many people in America. A free education and a reliable, well paying job is not that easy to come by.

The military’s adaptation to the style of warfare that the Afghan and Iraq wars necessitate (i.e. fewer, better trained soldiers) has led to fewer and fewer Americans having friends and family in the military. The fact that more and more people are making multiple deploy-

Lessons in democracy from a communist

By GEORGE PETROCHEILOS

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev was the leader of the USSR from 1988 until its collapse in 1991. Thus, he was the last person to serve as General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Gorbachev was one of the biggest leaders of the USSR. He was the first communist leader to meet with the President of the United States, namely Ronald Reagan. His strategic moves during the Cold War played a great role in ending the war, and he was the one who ended the political supremacy of the Communist Party in the USSR. For all of the above, Gorbachev received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990. Additionally, he is considered as one of the most democratic communists in the history of Russia.

Last week (on Monday, Feb. 21, 2011), Mikhail Gorbachev made a very important statement, which was actually a description of the current government in Russia. Specifically, he called it: “An imitation of democracy.”

This is how he described Putin’s administration of today, accusing the country’s leaders of exhibiting deceit and contempt towards the voters.

In his hardest criticism of the Russian government to date, the former leader of Russia accused Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and his protégée Dmitri Medvedev of distorting democracy. Gorbachev’s accusations are based on their statement that they will agree between them who will be nominated for president in the March 2012 elections.

Gorbachev said that such statements denote “unbelievable arrogance” and disrespect towards Russian citizens. He obviously based his argument on the fact that Russia is supposed to be a democratic nation, where every citizen has the right to vote for his or her new president. Gorbachev is known to be a very democratic politician, who has tried several times to form a more democratic party in Russia in order to compete against Vladimir Putin. However, he never succeeded.

As a Nobel Prize winner, Mikhail Gorbachev firmly believes that such an administration is not respecting the fundamentals of democracy and for that

reason he directly accused Putin himself, for the first time.

To quote Gorbachev: “This is not within Putin’s jurisdiction. This is something that must be decided by the nation in the elections. Doesn’t anyone have the right to run for [the] presidency?”

In the past, Gorbachev had avoided criticizing Putin directly. Putin continues to be the most powerful man in Russia since he became prime minister following two terms as president. Putin is expected to run for the presidency once again in 2012.

Gorbachev, who will turn 80 this week, said that Russia has an “imitation” of a parliamentary and judicial system.

He also accused the pro-government party United Russia of being a “bad copy” of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and warned that the government’s attempts to cut off all its political opponents will work against it. “Monopoly leads to decay and hinders the development of the economy,” he said.

Such criticism is especially tough and also unheard of in Putin’s Russia and the fact that it is spoken by a former leader of the country like Gorbachev makes it even more bitter.

For many years now, Putin has been in complete control of Russia and exercises great influence on most of the countries that used to be part of the Soviet Union. Gorbachev accuses Putin of denouncing democracy and he bases this on certain facts that are reasonable, but not absolute. The whole event may sound really ironic since one of the greatest communist leaders of all time suddenly presents himself as the protector of democracy and the savior of the Russian voters, but it is actually not. Gorbachev had been accused of being too democratic and liberal since 1985 when he served as the General Secretary of the USSR.

He was always against war and believed in modern communism, influenced by the fundamentals of democracy. That is exactly why he dissolved the Soviet Union and tried to form democratic parties in the Russian political scene. Such statements must put Vladimir Putin in a very difficult position, as they are spoken by a great Russian leader, Nobel Peace Prize winner and zealous supporter of democracy.

George Petrocheilos is a sophomore economics major from Athens, Greece.

Cutting back to move forward for America

By DANA GORDON

Americans have always had a deep belief in freedom. Freedom is an intrinsic part of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Freedom is a driving force that has allowed the country to flourish in many ways; Americans have the right to free speech, basic economic freedoms, freedom to elect their officials and to oppose an oppressive government.

In reality, these freedoms cannot exist in tandem without regulations on them. Unfortunately, the idea of sacrifice has become a hot button word that gives many Americans a viscerally negative response.

The American lifestyle has become bloated because whenever someone suggests that Americans should cut back, they claim that their constitutional rights are being infringed upon. Whether the suggested sacrifice is higher taxes or taking shorter showers to save energy, there is strong opposition. Americans must learn that sacrifice is a necessary part of life and that the government is not tyrannizing them.

One of the most hated forms of sacrifice is tax. Many see high taxes as detrimental to society because if people have to give away more of their earnings they do not benefit from their own work, which is both unfair and decreases incentives.

Another aspect is that tax money pays for welfare programs, which they say discourage individual responsibility and foster reliance on the state. Although welfare programs that help the poor are frowned upon, programs like Medicare and Social Security that benefit the middle class are untouchable.

America cannot afford to keep the current standards for Social Security and Medicare; safety net programs must be means tested so the funds are allocated to those who actually need them, but this will never happen because it would require a sacrificial change to beloved, although broken, programs.

When asked how to finance these programs, Republican politicians do

not suggest raising taxes or downsizing; they suggest making cuts on programs such as the National Endowment for the Arts (which makes up .01 percent of the economy).

Government regulation in the economic sector is also a controversial topic. When higher regulations are suggested, Americans accuse the government of paternalism and call Obama a Nazi or a Fascist (which happen to be two opposing viewpoints). It seems that no one informed them that the financial crisis we are currently in was due to deregulation, which has imposed greater limits on their economic freedom than the government’s regulations could ever do.

In terms of health, Americans have proved in many ways that they do not like to hear the word “less.” Whether it comes to salt, caloric, mass or beef consumption, there will always be a voice claiming that this is the government’s ploy to control what we do with our bodies. America has become one of, if not the fattest, unhealthiest country in the world.

Americans freely sacrifice their own health and lifespan by stuffing themselves with a never-ending stream of fattening, high-sodium processed foods, but are downright offended when Michelle Obama attempts to promote increased recess and outdoor time for children to exercise because she is attempting to tell American children what to do.

The environment is probably the biggest sphere where Americans should embrace the term “cut back.” Not only is our abuse of the environment hurting our country, but we are also making the rest of the world victim to our own extravagant lifestyle.

There is no reason for anyone to be driving a Hummer anywhere other than war zones (which are also gigantic abuses of resources); it is excessive for a soccer mom to be driving her kids around in a gas-guzzling beast of a vehicle (even if it is the hybrid model).

America consumes more oil than any other country, yet the thought of downsizing from an SUV to a Prius is unthinkable to many. The production of

beef is also a serious burden to the environment, yet McDonald’s brags about the number of hamburgers sold in almost all of their locations nationwide.

Americans do not even sacrifice their ideals on issues that do not affect them. They claim that if gay marriage were legal, it would delegitimize heterosexual marriage. Men make strong pro-life arguments when they have never had to face the impossible decision that so heavily impacts women’s lives. They are so stubborn in their beliefs that they refuse to listen to reason or logic that makes compromise almost impossible.

Americans need to realize that bigger is not always better, but in fact less is usually more beneficial. We have merged the concepts of excess with freedom, and likened sacrifice to an infringement on liberty. Americans must accept that to protect the basic freedoms they value, sacrifices must be made in other areas. Fareed Zakaria, editor of *Time* magazine states the paradox that Americans believe “they can have the level of government that they so plainly want, and yet [they] can have no taxes, but they can’t.”

If Americans continue to be staunchly opposed to government suggested sacrifice, then they must begin taking personal responsibility for their actions. It is a contradiction to chastise Michelle Obama for encouraging America’s obese youth to lose weight and then refuse to pay higher taxes for medical care when it is those same children who will need chronic care for diabetes.

For some reason, it is acceptable for America to hostilely take over foreign nations, yet Americans are repulsed by minor governmental changes to their lifestyle. Americans must come back to reality and learn that sacrifice is necessary, or the next generation will be forced to live in an overweight, financially unstable, environmentally depleted world due to their greedy, spoiled, freedom and liberty loving parents.

Dana Gordon is a freshman Public Health major from New York, N.Y.



Freshmen Room Selection 2011

Please join us for the Freshmen Housing Process Informational Sessions:

- **Tuesday, March 8th at 3:00pm & 4:00pm**
- **Thursday, March 10th at 4:00pm & 5:00pm**
- **Monday, March 14th at 4:00pm & 5:00pm**

All sessions will be held in the AMR / Multipurpose Room

Get all the information you will need about your living accommodations for the 2011-2012 academic year. Housing and Dining will be presenting information on the Freshmen Room Selection Process.

Important Dates

Tuesday, March 8th @ 3:00pm & 4:00pm

**Thursday March 10th @ 4:00pm & 5:00pm
and Monday, March 14th @ 4:00pm & 5:00pm**
Freshman Room Selection Process
Information Sessions
AMR Multipurpose Room

**Tuesday, March 8th @ 5:00pm –
Tuesday, March 15th**

Freshman Room Selection Group
Registration to be completed
and submitted on-line.

Visit: www.home_at_hopkins.jhu.edu
Deadline: March 15th @ 11:59pm

Monday, March 14th

Commuter Exemption forms signed by
parent and returned
to 102 Wolman Hall by 5pm.

Thursday, March 31st

Freshmen Priority Number Notification
distributed via email by 5:00pm

Friday, April 1st

"Making Your Number Work for You"
Workshops

AMR 1 Reading Room @ 3:00pm & 4:00pm

**Tuesday, April 5th; Wednesday, April 6th;
and Thursday, April 7th**

Freshmen Contract Signing Week
AMR 1 Multipurpose Room
Arrival time is based on Group's
Lottery Number



Looking forward to seeing you there!

Home_at_Hopkins.jhu.edu

Questions or Concerns? Email confirmation@hd.jhu.edu



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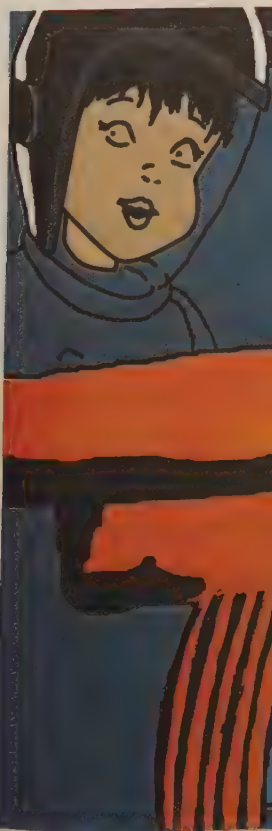
The Johns Hopkins
News-Letter

Your Weekend • Arts & Entertainment • Cartoons, Etc. • Science & Technology • Sports

MARCH 3, 2011

**WOMEN'S WINTER TRACK
WON their FIRST ever
INDOOR CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP
— LED BY —
CHRISTINA VALERIO
WHO WON THE 3000 METER
AND 5000 METER RACES**

PAGE 312



**SAFE!
EFFECTIVE!
NEUTRALIZES LASERS!**

Page 37

YOUR WEEKEND MARCH 3-6

Sculptures, sealife and more in Baltimore museums

By FLORENCE LAU
Your Weekend Editor

It's the beginning of March and with March comes relatively warmer days, clearer skies and eventually, the beginning of spring. Interspersed between random sunny days though are the weekends of grey and rain. When all there is to do is to sit on D-Level and ponder Orgo and Macro problem sets.

Before you give up hope and recommit yourself to a weekend of Chemistry and Economics, you might want to take a look at all the museums that Baltimore has to offer.

There's the Baltimore Museum of Art right down the street on Art Museum Drive, where admission is free for everyone every day. They feature 90,000 individual pieces of art, from European paintings to objects of Africa and Asia.

Or if you've already been to the BMA too many times, there's the Walters Art Museum at 600 N. Charles St. open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Wednesday to Sunday.

There is no fee to see collections of world art, which include Roman sarcophagi and Art Deco jewelry. The Walters also hosts a series of special events that can keep anyone occupied for a few hours on a rainy day.

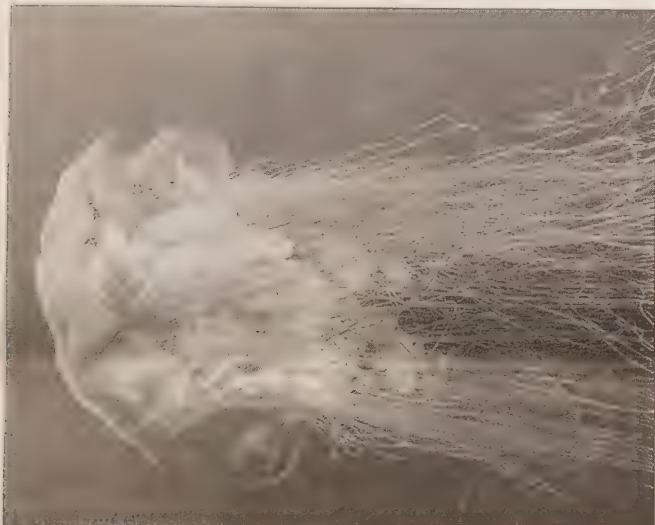
Not a fan of art? No problem. The Maryland Science Center at 601 Light Street is not only a place for kids, but for those of you who enjoy planetariums and IMAX. They also run events geared towards adults, like stargazing in the observatory and "Beer-ology 101."

This museum is only closed on Mondays and costs anywhere from about \$15 to \$19 depending on if you want to see an IMAX film while you're there.

Finally, of course, there's the National Aquarium located at the Inner Harbor. This is a must-see at least once during your four years here. Although it's a bit pricier (\$25 for admission and \$30 for admission with the 4-D theatre and dolphin show), this aquarium is worth the price.

It is filled with over 660 species and 16,500 specimens of not only sea life, but birds and amphibians as well. Now is your chance to see an Empire Gudgeon.

So as you can see, there's a lot to do indoors as well as outdoors in Baltimore while you're waiting for the rain to disappear and the sunny days to come back. Venture beyond campus and take a look at what the city has to offer. From art galleries to aquariums to railroad museums, there's something just right for you if you just take the time to explore.



COURTESY OF SCUBADIVING.COM

The National Aquarium at the Inner Harbor is currently hosting an exhibition on jellyfish.

Killer cats, mishaps and the nature of life

My dilemma this week is an ancient one, a philosophical grail quest of sorts that has plagued man since Grog first stuck his paleolithic head out of the cave, bumped it against a giant woolly creature, and his neighbor Fromb poked his head out and said, "What's the matter, Grog, having another mammoth Monday?"

My dilemma is, of course, "Is life in general just a cruel and hideous joke?"

I don't expect to arrive at any conclusion on this matter, I merely want to offer my support to those who seek to answer this question in their own lives.

On the most recent iteration of this journey into the heart of existence (there have been several), my suspicions that life is a cruel and hideous joke began to resurface this Tuesday when my story was workshoped in a fiction class. My story was about the murder of a boy named Will and his dog, Rufus. Turns out my teacher's son's name is Will and her dog's name is... you guessed it, Rufus.

Suffice it to say, I found myself praying that a band of troubadours would barge in and begin to re-enact the Defenestration of Prague, with me staring as the Regent, so I wouldn't look like such a pansy when I hurled myself out a window.

Another sign that life is a cruel and hideous joke?



COURTESY OF AGNITEK.COM

Life may indeed look like "just a cruel and hideous joke" when something similar to this happens on a day that's already bad.

My roommate went out of town last weekend to visit some friends in Rhode Island. I should preface this by saying that she parks her car on the streets of Baltimore on a nightly basis.

I should also say that talking about the crime rate in the area she went to in Rhode Island is like talking about the crime rate in Stepford (those who do are never heard from again and/or made into mutant Barbies). Yet, somehow, it was in the cradle of suburbia and not in big bad Baltimore that the hubcap was stolen off her new car. I'm sorry, but is

this "Road" Island — eight owners and eight cars strive to survive the bad streets of New Port and beyond?"

Other episodes relating to the theme of life as a joke: I went to Health and Wellness because I've recently come down with some sort of respiratory infection. The medical prognosis was that I should wait it out or take Musinex-d (d is for drug) because

there is a slight chance it could be allergies. I have no allergies.

People say youth is wasted on the young. I couldn't agree more. My birthday is next week and all I

can think about is how I wish I was turning 72 instead of 22. At 22 everyone is saying, "You're young."

You have your whole life ahead of you — aren't you living it up? You have no responsibilities. Scribble poetry on napkins! Get an asymmetrical haircut! These are the best years of your life!" Talk about pressure. At 72 people are more along the lines of, "Do you want some cake? After naptime? Okay."

And to top it off, my cat is thinking about eating me. His pupils dilate whenever we hang out, and he keeps lying down next to me. I'm pretty sure he's measuring to see whether he'll be able to fit me in one bite, or if he'll have to do it in several rounds. I'm so screwed.

So is life a joke? You decide. For the moment I'm leaning towards yes, but I am looking to be convinced otherwise. In the meantime, if you're thinking about sending me something for my birthday, I am open to Bingo and scratch cards.

Emma Brodie
Emma's Dilemma

Throat Culture: 24 Hour Sketch Comedy

Throat Culture, Hopkins's only sketch comedy group, presents their highly popular 24-hour sketch comedy this Saturday, March 5.

This is a show in the style of Saturday Night Live, in which the group will write, design and rehearse their skits all in the 24 hours leading up to the actual show based on prompts given by students. They are taking prompts on their Facebook page until Friday night, March 4, at 8 p.m., at which point they will begin writing and rehearsing.

They are accepting any sort of prompt, including but not limited to: pictures, one-liners, YouTube videos, quotes and more. Performances will consist of live acting and filmed skits.

Be sure not to miss what will undoubtedly be a very successful evening. Admission is \$1. The show begins at 8 p.m. and runs until 9:30 p.m. at the Arellano Theatre.

- Florence Lau

Calendar of JHU Events

Thursday, March 3

The Costs of Living
5 p.m.
Hodson 110

The G. Stanley Hall Lecture series, hosted by Psi Chi along with the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences presents Dr. Barry Schwartz. He will be speaking about how too many choices leads to "paralysis, bad decisions and dissatisfaction." Refreshments will be served at 4:30 p.m.

Global AIDS Banquet
3 — 6 p.m.
The Glass Pavillion

The annual Global AIDS Banquet, hosted by the Hopkins AIDS Alliance, will be held in the Glass Pavillion. There will be catered Ethiopian food as well as performances by student groups such as Jhanak. The banquet will also feature a speaker, whose keynote will be about how

AIDS affects people all around the world. Admission is free, but donations are always welcome.

Friday, March 4

Dahlia Flute Duo
5:45 p.m.
Homewood Museum

Peabody graduates Mary Matthews and Melissa Wertheimer will be performing various pieces written for the flute, including Telemann's "Sonata in A Major" and Debussy's "Snowflakes are Dancing." This concert is \$8 for students with a valid ID and \$15 for the general public. Admission fee involves museum admission as well as a post-concert reception. Seating is limited, so reserve your tickets through Homewood Museum ahead of time.

Pizza & Pitchers
6 - 8 p.m.
PJ's Pub

Join Hopkins College Democrats at PJ's Pub for pizza and pitchers. This event is free, and all food and drink will be provided.

Medicine Thru Music
8 — 9:30 p.m.
Shriver Hall

The American Red Cross Corps at Hopkins is hosting a concert to raise awareness about the new Hopkins's Disaster Action Team.



COURTESY OF TRICOUNTYREDCROSS.ORG

Sunday, March 6

Focus on Photography
2 — 5 p.m.
Baltimore Museum of Art

As part of the Free Family Sundays series, the BMA is presenting an exhibition on how cameras and photography can be used to capture a moment or tell a story. There will be a photo lab that will train viewers in discerning composition, point of view, character and storytelling in a photo.

Calendar of B'more Events

Thursday, March 3

The Creepshow
8 p.m. — 1 a.m.
Sidebar

Four female-fronted bands will be coming together in one show at the Sidebar at Mount Vernon. Performances include Dead End Lane, The Revelens, The Firecrackers and of course, The Creepshow. All four of these bands feature punk music. This event is at 218 E. Lexington St.

Friday, March 4

Putty Hill
7 p.m.
Charles Theatre

Come to the premiere of Matt Porterfield's highly anticipated indie film, co-presented by the Maryland Film Festival. Putty Hill is about friends and family who attempt to reconstruct the life of a young

man who has recently passed away. Along the way, the audience gets a glimpse into the lives of working-class America. Check <http://thecharles.com/> for showtimes and ticket prices. There will be an opening afterparty afterwards at Metro Gallery for those 21 and over.



COURTESY OF IONCINEMA.COM

Saturday, March 5

Jam with Gypsy Dawg
7:30 — 9 p.m.
Germano's Trattoria

Gypsy Dawg will be performing popular classes from a variety of artists, involving The Beatles, Bob Dylan and The Grateful Dead. They will also be performing original tunes by their own band members. Germano's Trattoria is at 300 S. High Street.

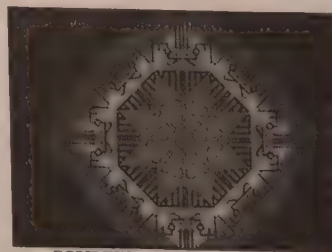
Viva Brazil!
8 p.m. — 1 a.m.
The Patterson

Creative Alliance is putting on a carnival street party at The Patterson this Saturday. Join them for a special performance by Batala DC, dance lessons by Sambo No Pe and a traditional carnival show with full costumes. Admission is \$20.

Sunday, March 6

The Religion of Relics
10:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.
The Walters Art Museum

Scholars of Islamic, African, Buddhist and Christian art history will have a discussion at the Walters Art Museum about religious beliefs, saintly commemoration and remembrance of history and cultural difference. This event costs \$25.



COURTESY OF VICTORIANA.COM

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

60s photography exhibit offers art with international scope

By **WHITNEY JANIS**
Staff Writer

Upon entering the *Seeing Now: Photography Since 1960* show at the Baltimore Museum of Art, one sees the notice, "This exhibition includes some images by contemporary photographers who explore frank and challenging subjects."

This pseudo-warning explains two central aspects of the show: to present photography not as a necessity for journalism and advertising, but as an art form in and of itself and, in doing so, presents images of lives luxurious and underprivileged, serene and tormented, that reflect the core of the human experience.

The show, on view until May 15, is comprised of four sections. The first, "Seeing Pictures," provides a satisfying array of imagery despite being slightly disorganized in terms of content.

Robert Frank's black-and-white "Cape Cod" illustrates a

mother, son and daughter on the beach: the mother on her stomach with her face turned away from the camera, the son next to her reading the *Daily News* with the cover headline "MARILYN DEAD," while the young girl runs nude holding the American flag above them. It is a striking photograph, detailing both the allure and the tragedy of the American Dream as personified by actress Marilyn Monroe.

Placed fittingly beside "Cape Cod" is Andy Warhol's lithograph "Marilyn Monroe Diptych," a mass of 50 Monroe head shots. The left half is brightly colored and the right half black-and-white, with the farthest right column of faces fading into obscurity.

Some photographs focus on race relations in America. Warhol's "Birmingham Race Riot 1964" displays a ring of white police officers and African-American men — one African-

SEE **PHOTOGRAPHY**, PAGE B4



COURTESY OF WWW.WHITNEY.ORG

The BMA's new photo exhibition features Andy Warhol's "Birmingham Race Riot 1964".

Though the Ottobar has been named best rock club in Baltimore by *City Paper* for the past several years, last Thursday night the oft overlooked bar / club showed little sign of the traditional rock for which it is lauded.

Instead, the venue was flooded with music lovers looking to scintillate their senses with the cutting-edge in experimental indie pop.

The night's lineup featured Me and This Army, Raindeer, The Dialogue and the headliners Twin Shadow.

The concert drew a large crowd, who were mostly congenial, as far as one can be congenial to strangers. This wasn't a concert that crushed your body even as the music uplifted your soul. Instead, the atmosphere was surprisingly polite, with murmured apologies for stepped-on toes and spilled beer.

Those in attendance were, for the most part, experienced but chilled out concertgoers, which made it infinitely easier to focus on the happenings on stage rather than any sort of drunken mob off of it.

Unfortunately, this reviewer arrived at the Ottobar too late to hear Me and This Army. However, the newly-christened, self-described "dance experimental" Baltimore band Raindeer has recently made its debut.

With their first EP released in July of 2010, the outfit has only recently become a group; previously, Raindeer had been one man, Charlie Hughes. That being said, the group has already carved out a niche in Baltimore's notoriously diverse music scene.

Raindeer's set certainly lived up to it's "experimental" description with an electronic free-for-all liberally dosed with guitar and bass.

The singer's voice, while a departure from the electronically-enhanced Raindeer EP, suited the groovy, synthetic sound that managed to carry over from the recordings.

The biggest difference between the live sound and the pre-recorded stuff was mostly tone; on the EP the vocals could very well belong to a husky-throated woman, while live, the delicate, nearly feminine quality was very much lacking.

The singer was decidedly male.

Though the music wasn't technically difficult by any means, it was pleasant enough to listen to.

Raindeer doesn't blow your face off with neat guitar riffs or set your heart pounding with the bass line. You don't see Raindeer for their remarkable musical ability, but rather for the vague head-bopping calm. Their very aesthetic suggests laid back, unassuming diffidence.

If Raindeer were a boyfriend, he would be the earnest one with the nice smile and ill-fitting pants.

If Raindeer were a birthday party, it would be the one at the roller rink with the disco lights and ironic party hats.

Also hailing from Charm City, The Dialogue has been making the rounds lately in support of their latest album, *Junebug*.

Consisting of four members and foregoing the ever-present synths of Raindeer and later, headliners Twin Shadow, the outfit lived the place up with their own particular brand of sneaky Baltimore pop.

Vocalist and lead guitarist Drew Shaffer surprised the audience with a round, flexible voice and a musicality that stems from an understanding of what tones the ear finds pleasurable.

The band alternated between slower ballads featuring stretchy, drawn-out laments from Shaffer and waltz-like guitars in three-quarter time, and more upbeat songs that encouraged audiences not only to bop their heads, but to tap their toes and shake their hips as well.

One track, off recently released *Junebug*, slowed things down to a dreamy crawl. "Be calm, keep your clothes on," crooned Shaffer in "Illusion." The song, which started off with the gentle strum of fuzzy guitar and unobtrusive drums, rose to a crescendo during the chorus, providing a swell for the singer's

The Oscars try to get hip, but land lamely

By **REBECCA FISHBEIN**
Arts & Entertainment Editor

As the movie industry's big names gathered outside the Kodak Theatre for the 83rd Academy Awards last Sunday, viewers at home wondered, waiting with baited breath, how "hip" hosts James Franco and Anne Hathaway would fare for the evening.

Would they open with a Billy Crystal song-and-dance number?

Would they leverage politicized cynicism towards Hollywood liberalism, a la Jon Stewart?

Would they lash out in hostile (but hilarious) humor at everyone in the audience, like Ricky Gervais at the Golden Globes? Would they totally tank?

When Franco and Hathaway opened with an *Inception*-esque mashup of this year's best movies, things looked like they might be okay. After all, Alec Baldwin, the embodiment of everything wonderful and hilarious, had a cameo.

But then, they launched into their opening monologue. And that was when the misery began.

Hathaway, dolled up in a golden Givenchy number (first of many for her, as the night of a thousand stars turned into the night of a thousand Hathaway outfits), babbled on overexuberantly.

Franco, on the other hand, read off the monitor in a totally monotone voice, looking like he'd just rolled out of bed. Or rolled something else. It was unclear.

Then, they brought out the moms.

Or, at least, Hathaway introduced her mom, who was sitting in the audience. There was a shtick about Mama Hathaway asking daughter Hathaway to stand up straight.

Franco introduced his grandmother, who was also sitting in the audience. There was a kind



COURTESY OF WWW.AWARDSDAILY.COM

Anne Hathaway and James Franco (dressed as Marilyn Monroe) were chosen for a younger appeal, but couldn't keep the show afloat.

of an adorable moment when she shouted excitedly that "Marky Mark" was there, and the camera closed in on Mark Wahlberg, who didn't look too happy at being referenced by his adolescent nickname.

The whole mom / grandma thing was sweet in a semi-kitschy way, but as one Twitter poster noted, it wasn't a good sign that they relied on mom-cuteness so early on in the show.

From then on, things just got worse.

Hathaway's trademark perkiness started out okay, but it wore on audiences quickly, making it obvious that she was trying far too hard to impress.

Conversely, Franco seemed entirely blasé and out of it for the whole show, leading many

to wonder if he'd been mellowing out on illicit substances backstage (his people maintain that he was just exhausted).

In fact, it was far more entertaining to Google "Is James Franco high?" and read the resulting Twitter feeds in real time than it was to watch the actual awards show.

While the show's producers had picked Franco and Hathaway to host in hopes of bringing

in a younger audience, the real appeal of watching the Oscars this year was simultaneously following it via social media.

Twitter was abuzz all night with Twitterer / Tweeters commenting on winners, losers and Hathaway's hammy, mile-a-minute gushing.

Online magazine *Slate* even ran a live feed of all their blogger's Tweets.

SEE **OSCARS**, PAGE B4



COURTESY OF WWW.DAEMONSTV.COM

How I Met Your Mother's Barney Stinson faces emotional turmoil in midseason finale.

CBS' *How I Met Your Mother* rides high in season seven

By **JANE SYH**
Staff Writer

Anyone who has been following *How I Met Your Mother* this season would know right off the bat that the episode title "Change of Heart" could only be referring to Barney.

Viewers have been teased with rampant rumors about the identity of the mother for over six years, but the writers have more tricks up their sleeves than expected — one of which involves diverting the fans' attention away from Ted and towards other equally intriguing story lines.

This episode was one that needed to be written. Out of *HIMYM*'s five main characters, Barney Stinson has had the least character development, with the possible exception of Lily.

Retraction: there had been about two seasons' worth of character development for him actually, but it was all thrown out the window in season five for no apparent reason other than viewers complained about missing the "old" Barney.

In this week's "Change of Heart," the show sets him on his way to start falling for Nora, a gorgeous and clever guest star introduced back in the Valentine's Day episode.

As his feelings grow, so does Barney's denial, as well as the viewers' realization that Barney Stinson cannot forever be the sleazeball (but somehow still loveable) jerk he has been throughout most of the series' run.

Now, this is pretty standard as far as sitcom plots go, but as always, *HIMYM* keeps viewers entertained by the clever ways it presents the story. Even the exposition is interesting, made so through montages of flashbacks, witty signs, hilarious character expressions and brilliant acting.

But the tool most often used and most original to the show is the framing devices for each episode, and this week's was no exception.

It was actually fairly ingenious, involving both continuity (Marshall's dad had a heart attack back in December, so the gang all head over to the doctor's to have their hearts checked out) and uniqueness (the doctor spots a couple irregularities in the twenty-four hour heart monitor Barney had, she asks about them, he fills her in about what happened at the time his heart did something weird).

And the "something weird" all had to do with Nora. She is special — special in this case meaning "not the usual brainless bimbo Barney usually picks up" — and he goes out with her a couple times.

This is allowed, because though he has his rule to "never go out with the same girl more than once," there is the addendum "unless she's hot."

Then she's all "Hey, Barney, just to be upfront — I want to get married someday, have the kids and the picket fence and the waking up next to the same person forever and ever" and

SEE **MOTHER**, PAGE B5

Last Week Live
Me and This Army,
Raindeer,
The Dialogue,
and Twin Shadow
The Ottobar

voice to ride on.

Brooklyn-based Twin Shadow, stage moniker for Dominican Republic-born George Lewis, Jr., headlined the show Thursday night.

A strangely appealing man with a lopsided afro, Lewis was joined on stage by a touring band. The debut album, entitled *Forget*, dropped earlier in 2010 and gathered critical acclaim by the gospels of music criticism — *Rolling Stone Magazine* and *Pitchfork*.

Twin Shadow draws inspiration from '80s retro electropop, sometimes almost overwhelmingly so. Lewis's voice could very well have done Bonnie Tyler's "Total Eclipse of the Heart" justice.

There's not much to dislike — the beat is catchy, the bass lines sufficiently interesting, the percussion a John Hughes cymbal constant.

Highlights of the night included the ubiquitous "Slow," for which Twin Shadow is most

known; a bubbly, effervescent layer of synths and keyboard balanced out the steady presence of the bass, with the vocals somewhere in between, surprisingly clear despite the instrumentation.

Though perhaps not as circulated as "Slow" or "Castles in the Snow," the song that stole the night was "Tyrant Destroyed." Lewis's deftly controlled voice stole the spotlight in this track, and the romantic love song took on an eerie, hushed quality.

Though the Ottobar often encourages local bands to open for headlining acts, this was one of the few shows where the setup worked quite beautifully.

The bands, while all distinct and separate entities with different musical stylings, nevertheless shared similar themes that made the switch from one group to another a natural, unforced thing.

For those of you who missed the show, never fear. Me and This Army can be seen March 11 at the Point, The Dialogue plays the Ottobar again on April 10 and Twin Shadow returns to the area on April 1 at the Black Cat in Washington, D.C. No word yet on Raindeer's next performance.

— Hsia-Ting Chang



COURTESY OF WWW.BROOKLYNVEGAN.COM

Brooklyn indie/electronic band Twin Shadow headlined the Ottobar on Thursday.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Love sucks: An ode to *The Vampire Diaries*

Pop culture has devised two types of vampires for us. The first is that of the over-romanticized Edward Cullen and Bella Swan *Twilight* love story. The second takes the form of the hyper-sexualized fanged fiends on HBO's *True Blood*. So where does the CW's *The Vampire Diaries* fit in?

When the show first premiered in fall of 2010 I was of the mindset that the world's obsession with vampires was only acceptable if it came along with excessive nudity.

The adult subject matter and surprisingly philosophical plot points of *True Blood* made it less of an embarrassment to watch than the Stephanie Meyer series.

A network television show couldn't possibly hope to portray the often-hokey titular theme of vampires in an entertaining manner. Or could it?

However, from a promising first season, *The Vampire Diaries* has developed to become one of television's most addicting series.

While its ratings indicate that *The Vampire Diaries* is safe for a third season renewal, I have rarely found any peers who are fans of the show. I have to attribute this to the show's name, which was admittedly off-putting.

After all, with a name that sounds like a bad tween book and an initial premise that sounded like the television version of *Twilight*, *The Vampire Diaries* didn't seem to offer much originality.

My not-so-firm anti-*Vampire Diaries* stance wavered when I learned that Ian Somerhalder would be starring as the bad boy vampire. Television buffs may recall Somerhalder from his short-lived role as Boone on *Lost*. Remember the guy who was obsessed with his step-sister and then got crushed by a falling plane? That was him.

I will admit that some shows I follow simply for the good fashion (*Pretty Little Liars*), character chemistry (Blair and Chuck in *Gossip Girl*) and melodramatic story lines (*90210*). And with a laundry list of shows like those, some may say that my opinion isn't very reputable.

Now, I love me some *Mad Men* and *Dexter* just as much as the next intellectual, but sometimes you just need a mindless show in between Orgo and International Politics. This column is to convince you that *The Vampire Diaries* can be that show.

The premise of the show is



In its second season, *The Vampire Diaries* succeeds each week with heavy sexual tension and jaw-dropping cliffhangers

as follows: high school student Elena (Nina Dobrev) falls in love with a hot, brooding male (Stefan, played by Paul Wesley) who turns out to be a vampire. Too *Twilight* for you? The setting of the show, Mystic Falls, Va., propels the storyline from trite to a little more innovative.

Early on, it is introduced that Elena is the doppelganger of Stefan's ex, Katherine, whom he dated in post-Civil War era Va. Katherine is also Damon's ex. They dated at the same time. It's a problem. While Stefan insists that he isn't interested in Elena because of this connection, Damon becomes interested for precisely that reason. And so a love triangle is presented.

Let's fast forward to the second season where the love triangle has now turned into a love rhombus. Katherine has made a reappearance, attempting to seduce both Stefan and Damon while trying to kill Elena. What saves this plot from being comical is Dobrev's performance as

both Katherine and Elena.

As Elena, she carries herself assertively, but with an air of innocence and humility. Conversely, with Katherine, Dobrev portrays the character with pathological manipulation and deceit. Even the camera follows her differently as Katherine, catching on her anger features which personify her hardened character.

The series combines past and present, wedding the town's history with its present and its founding fathers with its current residents. In this, the series examines lasting repercussions of one's actions in a fantastical way: if one were to never die, how far reaching would his or her actions be?

On a lighter note, the show revels in sexual tension, and its actors are certainly adept at playing it up. From Elena, Stefan and Damon to all of the show's minor characters, *The Vampire Diaries* does exactly what is expected of a 9 p.m. melodrama: it has every character date every other character.

Christina Warner Guest Columnist

BMA presents brilliant photography exhibition

PHOTOGRAPHY, FROM B3
American in front being attacked by two police dogs — against a background of dark trees and dappled light. Near the center, the light and trees compose what looks like a human face, hidden from the subjects and staring ominously onto the scene.

But "Seeing Pictures" isn't all so heavy-handed Rachel Harrison's "Untitled (egg/ice cream)" and "Untitled (dumplings/pizza)" humorously portray photography as a pivotal art form. Utilizing unusual angles and close-ups, the culinary images become abstract and distorted; once quotidian objects are now unfamiliar and bizarre.

The second section, "Seeing People," highlights human portraiture. The group of candid photos from Garry Winogrand's *Women are Beautiful* series boasts various unsuspecting women on the streets, keeping the focus on breasts, lips and legs. These photographs were some of the low-points of the show, as they appeared to merely exploit the female body in a creepy, voyeuristic fashion.

On the other hand, Danny Lyon's photos from his compilation *Conversations with the Dead* are brutally realistic and affecting. These photographs were taken at six prison units in Texas, chronicling the daily lives of guards and prisoners whose sentences range from two years to life. The images of inmates showering, playing dominoes, and passing out from heat exhaustion as well as the guards who look on and engage, are both haunting and entrancing.

A cornered off section of the show is primarily dominated by Larry Clark's *Tulsa*, another series of photos, centering on young drug users and the effects that drugs, sex and violence have on them in Tulsa, Okla.

The images progress from simple portraits and landscapes to more complicated ones of injection, expressions of

euphoria and subsequent agony. Two particularly effective images stand out — one of a visibly pregnant woman shooting up, and the other of three nudes in a disheveled bedroom, a woman attempting to insert the needle into her arm while the other woman assists her.

A man looks on, his genitalia displayed prominently in the light.

"Seeing Performance" contained the least successful photographs, though the idea of inverting photography itself into a performance (not merely capturing an unrelated performance in images) was intriguing. Marco Breuer's "Shot (C-917)" was especially creative.

In "Seeing Places," natural landscapes juxtaposed with man-made structures are at the forefront. Sze Tsung Leong's "Yihaoqiao, Yuzhong District, Chongqing" perfectly exemplifies this juxtaposition: construction workers and builders tend to projects in a dilapidated area surrounded by looming, sophisticated buildings in a rapidly modernizing China.

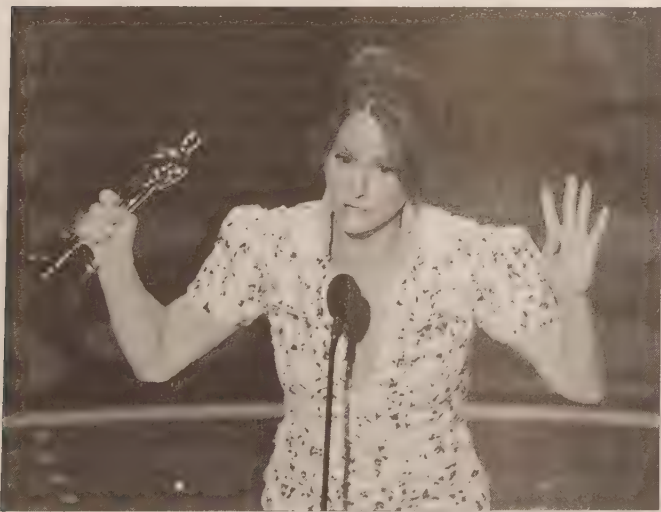
In "Water Towers," Bernd and Hilla Becher capture and portray German water towers as impressive sculptures which stand regally and gallantly against an otherwise dreary setting.

Seeing Now: Photography Since 1960 excels tremendously and delves straight into human lives and contemplates the very notion of art itself.

With over 70 featured artists, this is a show not to be missed.



COURTESY OF WWW.KOMPOST.RU
Lyon's *Conversations with the Dead* series was featured.



COURTESY OF WWW.REVIEWONMOVIES.COM
The Fighter's Melissa Leo gave a tedious speech for her Best Supporting Actress award.

Oscars are a snoozefest despite snazzy hosts

OSCARS, FROM B3

Franco himself uploaded dozens of backstage photos to his own Twitter account. He even posted a video of Hathaway giving him a hand massage prior to the ceremony.

The onslaught of social media was rather appropriate in light of one of the night's biggest contenders, *The Social Network*, which, as you may have heard, is a movie about Facebook.

Sadly, "The Twit Network," a YouTube sensation parodying the trailer for *The Social Network*, was shut out by the Academy.

The hosts weren't the only ones responsible for the snoozefest that categorized this year's Oscars by the way.

The early acceptance speeches — especially the first one by Best Supporting Actress winner Me-

lissa Leo — ran on way too long, leaving little time for later speakers to give their thanks.

The competition itself was also stale. The awards went to all the frontrunners. Leo won for *The Fighter*, Bale won Best Supporting Actor (also for *The Fighter*), Portman won Best Actress for *Black Swan* and Colin Firth took home Best Actor for *The King's Speech*. All as predicted. *The King's Speech* won Best Movie. Also predicted.

In fact, the only semi-upset was *The Social Network* director David Fincher's loss to *The King's Speech* director Tom Hooper. Though most predictions pointed to *The King's Speech* as being the big winner, many thought Fincher would clinch Best Director.

After all, the man made Facebook look interesting. Maybe he should have directed the Oscars.

The HOP brings humor to Homewood with Myq Kaplan

By HSIA-TING CHANG & REBECCA FISHBEIN
Staff Writers

Between procuring Lupe and making those snazzy Pringle-esque shirts, it seemed like the HOP couldn't outdo itself, but their latest venture — a four-part series of stand-up comedians — seems to be a resounding success.

Last Wednesday the second comedian in the series, Myq Kaplan, came to Shriver Hall to share the wit and timing that made him so popular on Comedy Central's *Last Coming Standing*. Indeed, in 2009 Kaplan was voted New York's funniest stand-up comedian.

First, though, Hopkins put forth its own resident comedian. Junior Pat Haire opened up the show with a short bit on the art of procrastination.

Haire was funny enough, demonstrating poise and an aptitude for comedic timing.

The crowd was generally very receptive.

Haire quickly applied his procrastination shtick to the art of wooing women.

"If you wait to ask a girl to have sex with you, she's gonna think that's gentlemanly," Haire said. "Patience might help your success rate."

When our own stand-up representative started comparing stamina in bed to procrastinating doing one's homework, though, the audience knew it was time for the headliner.

Enter Myq Kaplan, a sheepish, lanky 30-something equipped with beard and thick-rimmed glasses.

Kaplan's entrance was a far cry from what one might typically expect at a comedy show; there

was no fist-pumping swagger, no Dane Cook-esque overcompensation or unbridled confidence.

Instead, Kaplan just sauntered on stage, taking the microphone and offering a reserved greeting to everyone.

Within a few minutes though, Kaplan was jetting smoothly along his bit, drawing energy from the crowd and falling comfortably into his niche.

"You guys are my demographic," Kaplan said. "Mainly because you guys know what a demographic is."

These initial moments gave insight into how Kaplan operates.

Quiet and reserved by nature, the comedian gained momentum from puns and wordplay, and from the witty ways by which he showed the audience that even if they were smarter than him, he was much quicker.

When Kaplan mentioned eating at "your fresh food... place," the crowd cheered and laughed. At this, Kaplan voiced his amusement.

"I'm trying to calibrate where you guys laugh and the beginning of the story is just not the right place," he said with a smirk. "It's like an investment. The return on this joke is gonna be huge."

Soon Kaplan was poking fun at Blue Jays' false sense of security.

"I walked into the Fresh Food vestibule — the backpack room — and [asked] do people just leave their stuff here all day?" Kaplan said. "On a related note, I have seven new backpacks and if anyone would like to buy a laptop, I'll get you a reasonable deal."

At one point, Kaplan delved into his past experiences perform-

ing at colleges around the country.

"When I was at a Catholic school... [they said] 'stay away from everything tabooed,'" Kaplan smirked. "Well I don't think anything is tabooed, so I just tried to stay near everything."

At times, Kaplan's jokes were in danger of being too taboo. "Incest is bad, but not as bad as other things, like rape — worse, I think, yeah?" Kaplan asked to shaky, uneasy laughter. "But it's not the worst. Rape-incest, for example, is worse than either rape or incest."

Kaplan closed out the night with a lewd joke about fisting, to which students were surprisingly receptive.

The students streaming out of Shriver at the show's close seemed far more lighthearted than they had been upon entry.

They laughed and joked with

their friends, and though many made the inevitable trudge back to Milton S. Eisenhower, it was obvious that their spirits were lifted on a busy Wednesday night.

In this respect, Kaplan was a resounding success.

Indeed, his timing, content and overall attitude jived well with the atmosphere of Hopkins.

Kaplan, a smart guy with a degree in mathematics and a tongue thoroughly entrenched in cheek, is the perfect comic for Homewood — someone who understands the surreal aspect of undergraduate life at one of the country's leading and most grueling research universities.

Perhaps students liked Myq so much because he, unlike so many stand-up comedians, actually understands some of our pain.



COURTESY OF WWW.COMEDYCENTRAL.COM
Comedy Central comedian Myq Kaplan performed stand-up at Shriver on Wednesday.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Ting Talks: A Natalie Portman Love Song

The Natalie Portman Phenomenon has taken hold of the nation: America, enamoured of this Israeli-born, clean-as-a-whistle Hollywood starlet, has succumbed to her limpid-eyed charm, and with good reason.

Though Natalie has been a staple of the movie business for what seems like forever, there was indeed a time when she did not dominate the silver screen.

Professionally, what has made the ubiquitous Natalie Portman a Hollywood success story is her unbelievable range as an actress.

Take, for example, the months leading to awards season. Not only did she have the creepily mind-bending *Black Swan* sweeping across the movie theaters of America, but she also starred in romantic comedy *No Strings Attached* with Demi Moore's baby-faced husband Ashton Kutcher, released at roughly the same time.

Remember *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace*? Yeah, she was in that, playing the jailbait Queen of Naboo. Not exactly an Oscar-worthy performance, but a decent effort considering her age.

Before that, she played the strange but compelling Mathilda in Luc Besson's *The Professional* (also entitled *Léon*). The premise of the film beautifully captures the tension between the — surprise, surprise — jail-

bait Mathilda and Léon, a professional assassin.

Other movie credits include classics such as *Garden State*, *Closer*, *V for Vendetta*, *The Other Boleyn Girl*, and *Brothers*. Movies we wish she had never touched with a six-foot pole include *Mr. Magorium's Magic Emporium* and *New York, I Love You*, the bastard child of *Paris, Je T'Aime*.

Despite these regrettable mistakes, no one can dispute her skills as an actress.

Furthermore, she has been Hollywood's poster child for good, clean fun. The actress, arguably the reason veganism is hip today, has never been photographed drunk, high or showing her cooch. It's an accomplishment worth more than her Oscar win for *Black Swan*.

But now Natalie has reached a turning point in her life; she's gone and gotten herself pregnant with French choreographer Benjamin Millepied.

In her Golden Globe awards speech, Natalie famously said, "Benjamin choreographed the film, and you remember him in the movie as the guy who, when asked if he would sleep with that girl was like, 'Psh.' He's the best actor. He totally wants to sleep with me."

We can only wonder what lies ahead for the irrepressible Ms. Portman. Pregnancy certainly doesn't seem to slow her down.

— Hsia-Ting Chang



COURTESY OF WWW.AMERICANEWSTODAY.COM
A pregnant Natalie Portman crosses the street sans fiancé Benjamin Millepied.

HIMYM satisfies fans with midseason finale

MOTHER, FROM B3

he's all "uh, yeah, me too" except everyone knows he's lying.

Even she finds out he's lying, specifically when she asks him up to her apartment and he tells her that he was making up all that stuff about wanting a family in order to get in her pants.

The clichéd catch is, however, that Barney was actually lying about the lying. He does want all that gooey romantic stuff, and he wants it with Nora.

The doctor's office highlights this when they look at the record from his heart monitor and discover that his heart literally skips a beat when he sees her walk into the room.

Right? Right? All this cottoncandy fluff is enough to make your teeth rot. It's enough to give you whiplash from trying to follow Barney's complete 180-degree turnaround.

So he runs to where Nora is having brunch with her parents and he tells her that he's sorry, that he was lying about lying, that he is ready to go to this new relationship plane with her, and then he meets her parents and shows them a magic trick, and you are literally sitting there going "Oh, my god, this is so bad. I cannot believe they just crammed a year's worth of character development into one episode. How is this supposed to be believable?" and then the camera pans over to the door, where the real Barney is standing, staring at Nora sitting with her parents.

And then you just feel like someone sucker-punched you in the stomach, but it's the best kind of sucker-punch because these kinds of beautiful reveals is what *How I Met Your Mother* does best.

The unreliable narrator, even the unreliable camera eye, creates these reactions, like the very first time you read "And then he woke up. And it was all a dream."

So Barney just stands at the door, imagining what it would be like to take that step forward and do the scary apologize-to-the-girl-and-start-a-real-relationship thing, before he turns and walks away with a dissatisfied, angry shake of his head.

And it's wonderful because it's just the right amount of growth, a tiny, epiphany enough to shake you up but not to cause drastic change. Not yet. It's what happens in day-to-day life; it's realistic.

Nora was special enough to affect Barney in this way, to make him realize that he wants to change and grow.



COURTESY OF WWW.TVGUIDE.COM

How I Met Your Mother characters Lily, Barney and Robin sit around the couch re-hashing the night's events over a pint of beer.

However, she's not special enough to actually cause that change — he wasn't able to step through the door for her. For that, someone more significant, more suitable to him, more awesome, is needed to help him make that leap (Robin! Robin! Robin!).

The juxtaposition of these deep feelings overloads with good, honest comedy. The B-story in this episode is all silliness, a complete throwaway irrelevant to the main plot-arc, but it's lovable and fun and hilarious.

Robin tells the gang that she wants a dog; they tell her no, what she actually wants is a man (because that makes complete anti-feminist logic) and then she meets Scooby at the park. Scooby is a man. In theory.

Except for the fact that he chases squirrels, fetches keys, is entranced by moving objects, sticks his head out the car window, chases his tail, pees on a fire hydrant and there are at least a dozen more of these but you get the picture.

The only thing lacking in the Scooby storyline was the missed opportunities. He eats a pan-full of chocolate brownies and doesn't get sick like dogs famously do when they eat chocolate. He brings the gang "sandwiches" (yes, the "sandwiches" make a reappearance this episode) and not once are they referred to as Scooby Snacks.

And if the frustrating-but-ultimately-gratifying character development for Barney and pun-

tastic opportunities of Robin dating a dog-man aren't enough, here are some more stray reasons for why this week's episode of *HIMYM* was legend — wait for it — Barney blackmails the gang into lying for him, and the viewers are given "The Goat"-like teasers of what may come in later episodes. Keep an eye out for Robin's Mr. T dream and Ted's thermos.

— Marshall eating a calzone off the sidewalk. It's infinitely more amusing than it sounds.

— Barney calling God, "Beardy."

— As it was previously mentioned, the return of the sandwiches. Ted, Marshall and Lily bake sandwich-brownies and then they lose Scooby, and have to wander around New York City, high, searching for the dog-man.

— Marshall with a mustache, but not Mustache Marshall.

— The brief reemergence of Big Fudge and the Bangity-Bang song.

— Lily looking disgruntled as Barney crouches in the fetal position on her lap.

— 19 dog puns in under a minute. 19 DOG PUNS IN UNDER A MINUTE.

— Ted mentioning how he went to an N'Sync concert in 1998. He caught JC's shirt. You know that he has a shrine to it somewhere in his closet. It is entirely likely that Ted secretly dork-dances around his apartment to "Bye Bye Bye" while wearing JC's unwashed shirt and

singing into a hairbrush.

— Neil Patrick Harris's acting this week was phenomenal. His storyline was not an easy one to sell, and he pulled it off with absolutely flying colors.

— And there actually is no "dary," because Barney tries to say it, but then sneezes instead.

The main disappointment about this season is the complete lack of *How I Met Your Mother* guest stars/outside love interests actually becoming real people.

The guest actors can only be around for a few episodes, sure, but the manipulation of what they are doing for the characters is so heavy-handed that the viewers can almost see the puppet strings dangling from the writers' fingers.

There is a definite consensus among the fans that they are getting bored, and it would be interesting for the show and for the viewers if *HIMYM* were to attempt to introduce another "Stella" — that is, someone who the viewers won't automatically know isn't the mother, someone who sticks around for longer than three or four episodes — something to mess with the show's collectively sharp-eyed fan base.

All in all, this week's episode was solidly entertaining, occasionally laugh-out-loud, not without its flaws but, in the end, definitely worth a half hour of your time. *How I Met Your Mother* is now on hiatus, with new episodes returning on March 21st.

ARTIST
Radiohead
ALBUM
The King of Limbs
LABEL
XL
RELEASED
Feb. 18, 2011

You never know what to expect with a Radiohead album. Case in point: this album, their eighth release, dropped just a few days after its existence was even announced to the public for the first time.

Innovative release strategies are nothing new with them; the group introduced the concept of pay-what-you-wish with their last album, *In Rainbows*.

But while *In Rainbows* was the most strangely accessible of their output thus far, *The King of Limbs* is a far more troublesome affair to pull apart.

It's cloaked in ambience, moodiness, the mumbling swirl of Thom Yorke's vocals and abstract lyricism.

This is not an album where, upon first listen, you'll be singing along. There are no choruses, no real rhythms to hold on to.

And yet, it's hard not to be drawn in. There's something irrevocable about the dark shadows of their music, the way it takes you to another planet entirely.

And of course, there's a sense of accomplishment for finding your way amidst the unsettling electronica, the hypnotic trance Yorke's voice puts you in.

Whereas certain songs on *In Rainbows* were catchy in their

dark, swooning way ("House Of Cards," "Reckoner"), the material in this newest release just has to take its time to grow on you.

On first listen, opener "Bloom" lurches and shuffles, piano lines falling all over the shambling drums and Yorke's vocals a warble amid the cold bleeps, resulting in displacement. Though difficult to digest, slowly but surely, you settle into the mood, becoming enveloped in the sound.

Furthermore, Radiohead pushes the lyrics to the back-ground on several of the tracks. This results in an emphasis on the way the instruments interact with Yorke's voice, and that intermingling becomes the focus of these songs. While starting at first, it's a tactic, a style, that's inescapably Radiohead, and it grows on you.

"Morning Mr. Magpie" and "Little by Little" hold the energy of "Bloom"; the tight flickers of guitars becomes almost claustrophobic, especially as Yorke repeats, "You stole it all, give it back" on "Magpie."

You get a real sense of the insidiousness, the desperation. It's incredible, really, how much meat Radiohead gets out of the most seemingly flighty, gauzy combination of sounds.

In the space of a 37-minute album, they sound insidiously creepy (the cramped beats of "Feral"), romantic ("Give Up the Ghost"), sinister, beautiful and everything in between.

Indeed, as the album settles

into its second half, a suite of quieter, more spaced-out tunes, the tension is amped up all the more.

"Codex" barely incorporates more than piano and ghostly noise for its first minute, but by the end, it becomes a beautiful swirl that burrows its way into your consciousness.

Meanwhile, "Give Up The Ghost" is utterly gorgeous as well, the echo effects giving a slow-melting quality to Yorke's voice that pairs nicely with the spacious instrumentation.

It is difficult to find a foothold in *The King of Limbs*; it is hard to get, at least on first listen through.

Though it is easy to write off, to view negatively, the dark and ambiguous musicality takes several listens before it clicks into place.

This is the stuff that critics catfight viciously about, the music that writers find all sorts of hidden messages and nuances in.

Of course, there's a time and a place for meandering, dense music, where nothing is handed to you and everything is a puzzle that needs to be put back into place.

The King Of Limbs might not be for everyone, but if you do like Radiohead, it's definitely worth the time it takes to delve into.

— Melanie Love

NEW VIBRATIONS

ARTIST
Eisley
ALBUM
The Valley
LABEL
Equal Vision Records
RELEASED
March 1, 2011

Although *The Valley* is Texas band Eisley's third album, they do not lose what makes them unique and what endeared them to listeners from the very beginning.

The same haunting harmonies and unexpected, but surprisingly brilliant melodies that seduce their fans drench each carefully crafted song, the notes all fitting together to create the otherworldly quality for which they are known.

The indie band, made up of four sisters and a cousin, gets more personal than any of their previous albums have before, capitalizing on personal experience to come up with lyrics like "If I sound angry, I'm sorry / This body can only cry for so long," on the second track, "Smarter."

Instead of fairy tales and imaginative fiction, as the subjects of their previous albums have been, they bring their trials, heartbreak, and failures to the table this time, infusing a personal meaning into the lyrics.

Eisley's music hasn't become "emo" by any means, but there's a maturity that hadn't been there

in either *Room Noises* or *Combinations*.

The two lead singers, Sherri and Stacy DuPree, have beautifully clear and almost childish voices that enunciate to perfection, never leaving the listeners unsure of what they are saying.

However, just because their voices are clear does not mean they're not intense when they sing lyrics like, "Bones crack and fingers blister" in "Mr. Moon," or "You'll be left broken and bleeding from the heart when he doesn't come home" in the creatively titled "Sad."

Eisley does a lot of vocal layering throughout their album, creating harmonies with an instrumental backing that doesn't overpower them, but rather balances the songs.

They have found the perfect blend of instruments to show off their voices and their talents.

Their music, different and something that is difficult to find elsewhere, is something that people definitely shouldn't pass up without listening to at least once.

They're not afraid to go against the norm and do something different, and not only do they infuse their entire album with their take on indie music, but they also do it well.

And while the lyrics may be a bit darker or more solid than what people have come to expect from Eisley, sharing intimate details about lost love and new opportunities, they never lose the innocence that marked their be-

ginning in their first album.

They're never jaded, they never rail against the unfairness of life and they never try and gain the audience's pity.

All they do is tell the story of their lives, what they've done to get over their heartbreak and how they're moving on together and creating something beautiful from their experiences.

This album is intimately gorgeous, and many people can relate to the lyrics.

They don't tell of specific incidents, but general stories that people can interpret as they see fit.

Eisley seeks to not only understand their own lives, but also to tell stories for everyone in *The Valley*.

Through their use of instruments and overlapping vocals, they succeed wildly in their storytelling, both in content as well as the quality

of the music itself.

The Valley is an album that people can listen to after a difficult day. The lyrics and, more importantly, the music that Eisley creates immediately pull the listeners into the mood and make them want to listen to the album all the way through.

Not only that, but this isn't a record that can be put away on the shelf after one listen.

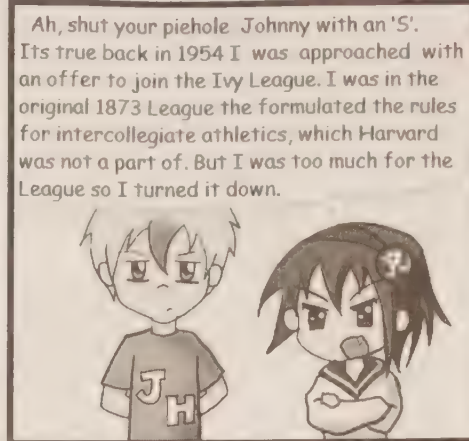
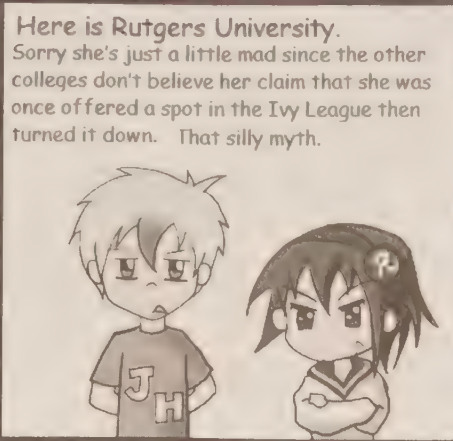
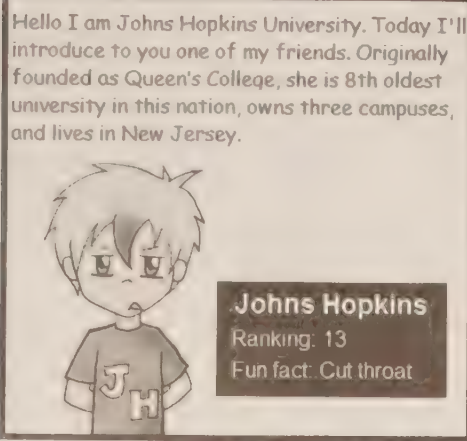
After hearing it through once, you'll immediately hit replay again and again, just to get another taste of the unique way the DuPrees' voices blend together to create a tantalizing listening experience.

— Florence Lau

CARTOONS, ETC.

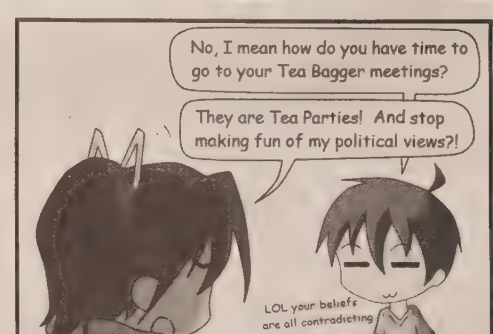
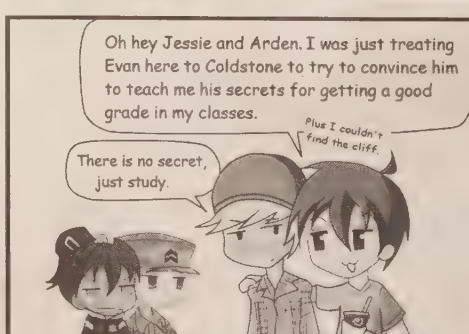
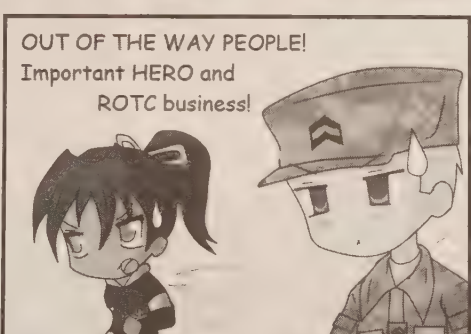
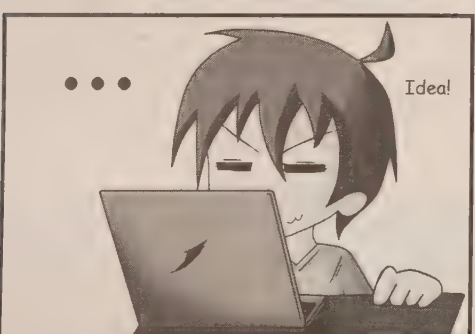
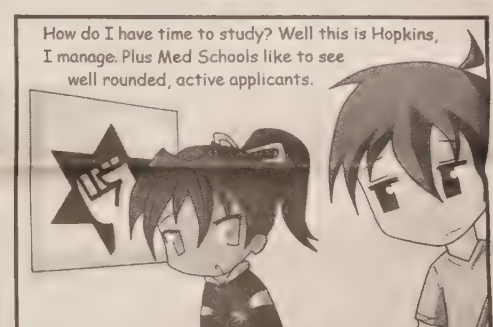
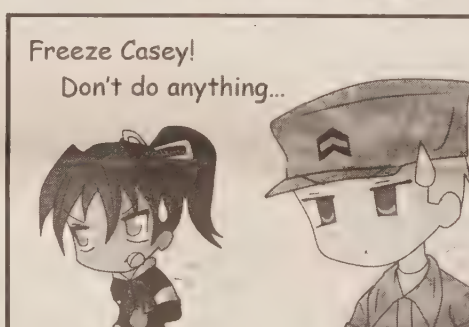
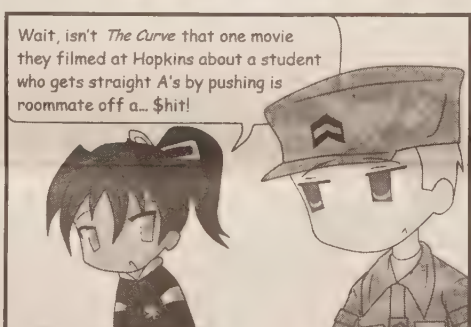
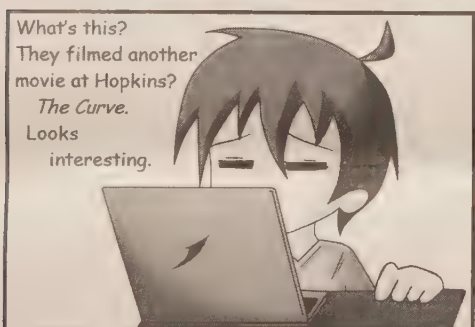
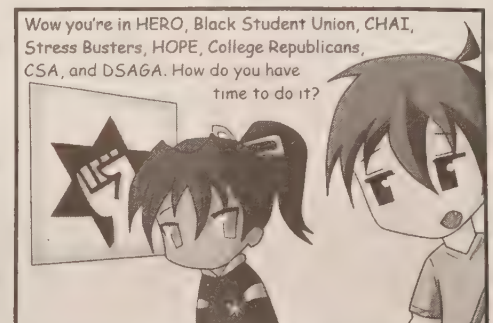
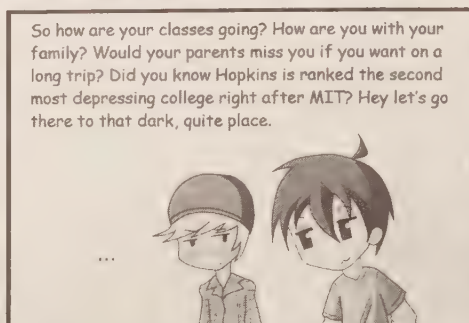
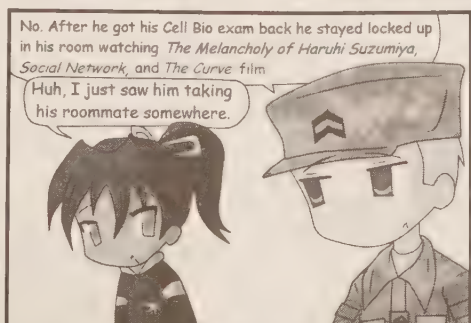
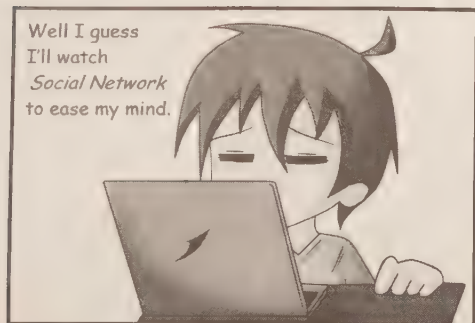
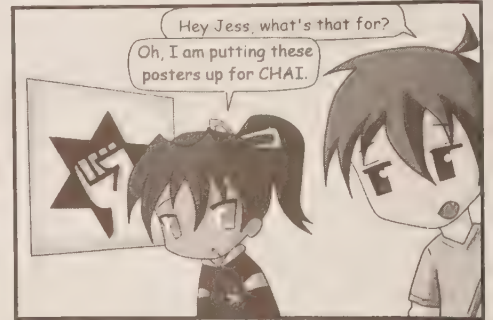
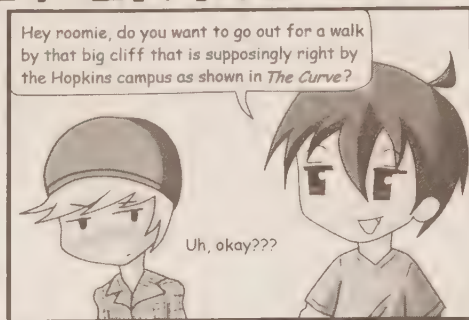
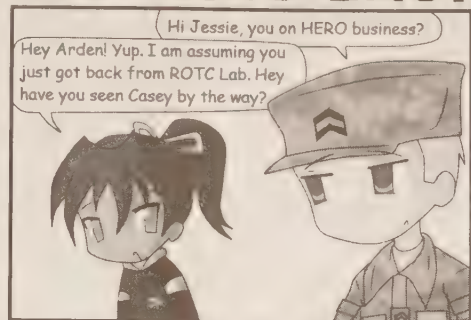
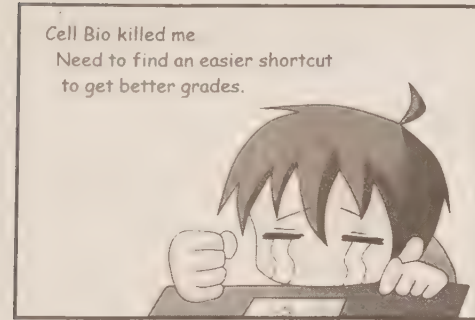
Blue Jay Brigade

By Kevin Stoll Li



*Not a myth, Rutgers University was offered a spot in the Ivy League as Rutgers played Princeton in the first college football game along with many other reasons. But Rutgers turned down the offer.

HOPKINS EASILY LIVING LIFE

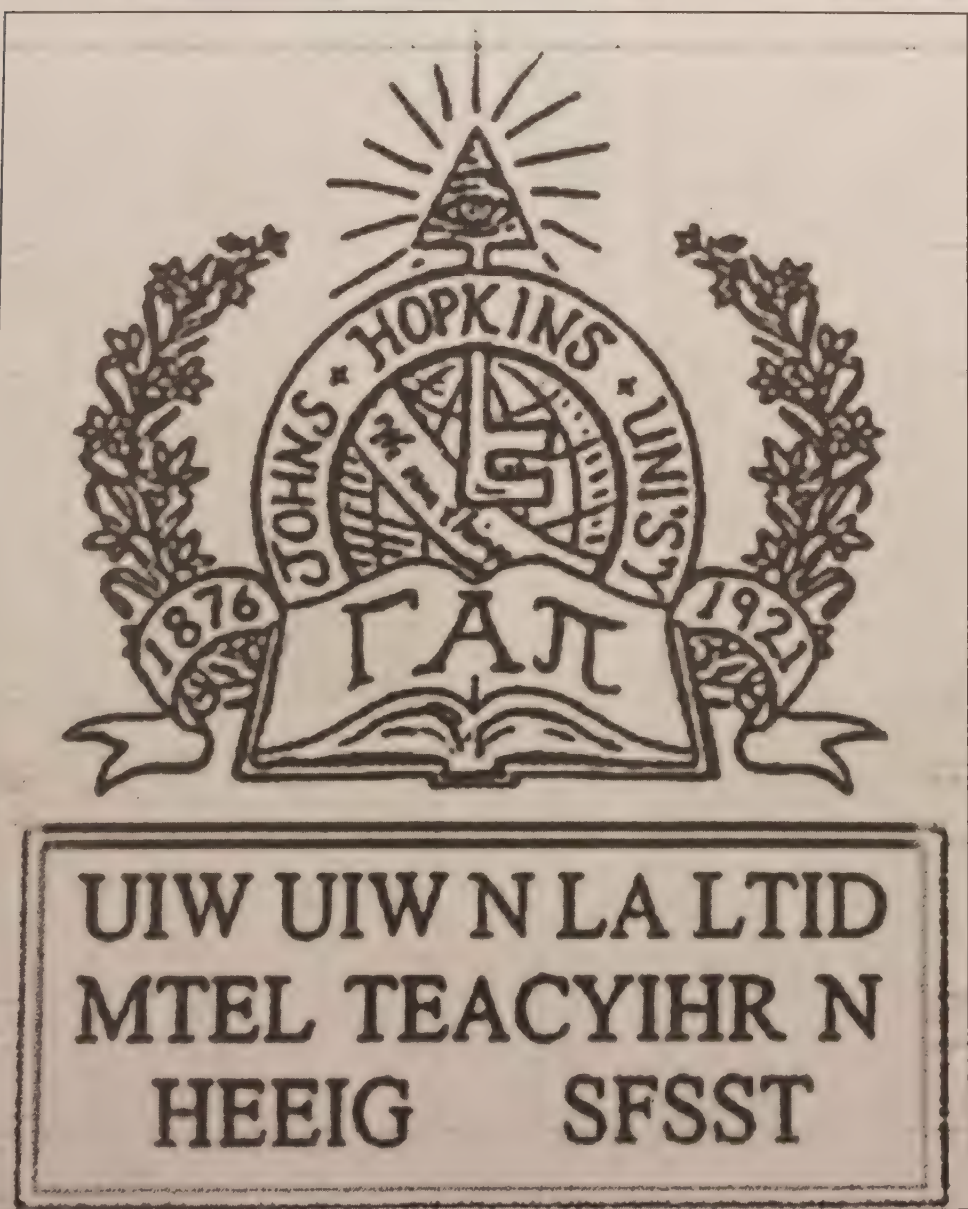


Mr. Glenn Beck-kun

By Annie



<---Email us if you solve this puzzle and you may win a prize from Gamma Alpha Pi. Email us at jhucartoons@yahoo.com or cartoons@jhunewsletter.com as well if you are interested in drawing, writing, or working for the Cartoons Section. Also see these cartoons in full color at: jhucartoons.deviantart.com.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



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Scientists theorize that the increased strain of decoding sounds can stress the brain.

Hearing loss linked to higher risk for dementia

By VIVEK SINANAN
Staff Writer

Researchers at the Hopkins School of Medicine and the National Institute on Aging have discovered a link between hearing loss and the development of dementia including Alzheimer's disease.

The study focused on 639 patients who were part of the voluntary Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging (BLSA), which began in 1958 and is still ongoing. Changes in hearing were only measured in participants up to 1994.

These audiometric measurements were compared to more recent ones taken starting in 2006. They found that persons with a greater level of hearing loss were more likely to be male, older and hypertensive.

The patients were then examined for neurological symptoms of dementia, and this was compared to the 1994 BLSA data on these symptoms.

Changes in these symptoms were then compared to changes in hearing. All measurements were adjusted for age, sex, race, education, smoking, diabetes and hypertension, the last two of which have been determined to be risk factors for dementia in previous studies.

Using a measurement known as pure-tone average (PTA), hearing levels in the participants were taken. This measurement is

determined in units of decibels/year (decibels are the standard unit used to measure sound).

In the more recent set of samples taken by Hopkins researchers, participants were asked to return for new PTA measurements. The frequency of visits was related to age: PTA measurements were taken more frequently in older persons.

In 1994, when the last audiometric measurement was taken by BLSA, approximately one-quarter of the volunteers had developed hearing loss and none had been diagnosed with dementia.

In the group of volunteers that would later develop dementia, PTA loss of hearing was measured as 0.52 dB/yr, almost twice the 0.27 dB/yr measured in volunteers who did not develop dementia. This was compared to data obtained when only participants age 65 or older were considered, or when participants with a history of stroke were included. These restrictions did not yield any significant changes in the relation between hearing loss and dementia.

Hearing loss was further categorized according to other commonly accepted levels. They found that the severity of hearing loss had a direct, positive relationship with the risk of developing dementia.

Persons with moderate hearing

SEE DEMENTIA, PAGE B9

Physicists develop defense against Storm Troopers

By DAN CADEL
Staff Writer

Laser technology has been synonymous with the "cutting edge" of science since its invention in the 1950s. The concept was first theorized by Albert Einstein in 1917, and has been rapidly advancing ever since.

That's not to mention the intrinsic link between lasers and science fiction. In virtually all futuristic fiction, lasers make an appearance as the weapon of choice.

After all, hypothetically, why carry around bullets when you can have an unlimited supply of laser pulses? Coupled with this are the shields that these futuristic warriors have. Shiny, fluid-like membranes are shown encompassing a ship from which laser blasts simply bounce right off.

The physics here are actually reasonably sound; after all, mirrors reflect optical lasers. What if there could be a device that, rather than reflecting the light, simply absorbed and destroyed it? New research done at Yale University shows that such technology, in fact, might not be science fiction.

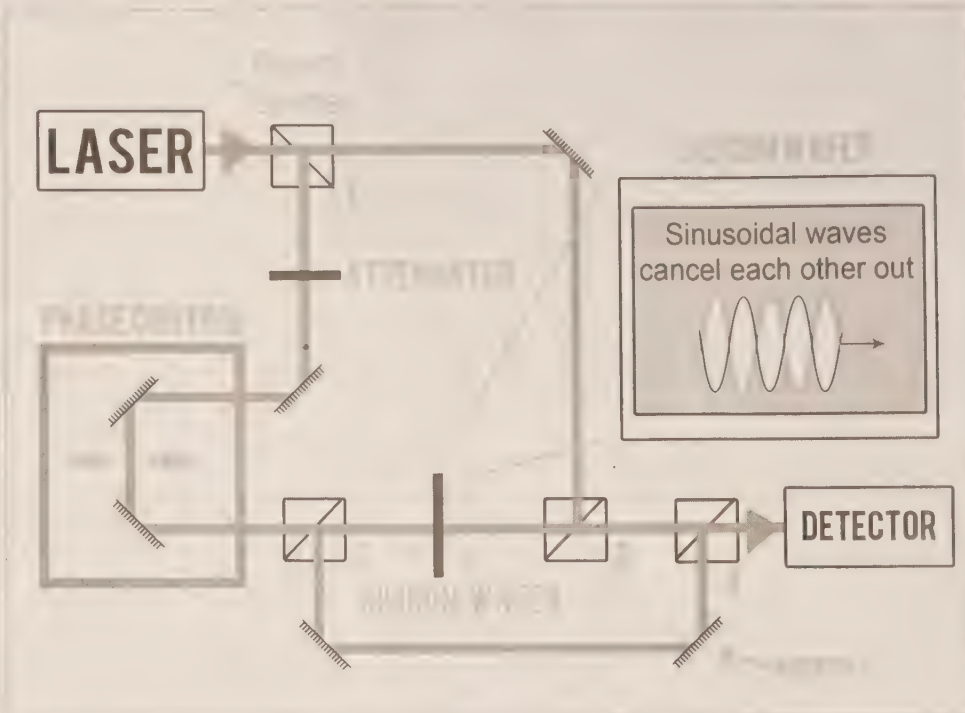
In an article titled "Time Reversed Lasing and Interferometric Control of Absorption" published last week in *Science*, a team of physicists described the theoretical and experimental proof of a device. The team named such a device a "coherent perfect absorber" (CPA).

The idea was first proposed by A. Douglas Stone, one of the co-authors of the new paper.

"The idea of time-reversed lasing came from [him] about two years ago when he was working on the theory of complex laser," co-author Hui Cao wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I participated in many discussions while his group was developing the theory of time-reversed laser... [and] started working on the experiments right after the theory was developed."

The simplest manifestation of a CPA involves a single laser beam that passes through a cavity and then hits a mirror, reflecting back upon itself.

When tuned correctly, the original laser beam and the reflected beam interfere destructively. The two beams essentially line up and cancel each other out,



ANNE FABER/GRAPHICS EDITOR

By adjusting the size of the silicon wafer, physicists are able to tune the anti-laser to absorb specific wavelengths of light.

causing the laser's energy to be absorbed by the CPA.

A more complex version of the system, a two-channel CPA involves a network of mirrors and beam splitters in which a silicon wafer about a 10th of a millimeter thick is placed in the beam.

Again, once the phase of the light is adjusted, the silicon wafer can absorb the laser beam and turn its energy into another form such as heat or electrical current. Overall, the prototype was able to absorb over 99 percent of the incident light.

To get to this point though, the researchers had to "ensure the spatial and temporal coherence

of two beams that are incident on the silicon wafer from the opposite sides, and also improve the spectral resolution of our detector to see large modulation of output intensity when varying the relative phase of the two beams," Cao wrote.

"This is a very intriguing result," Daniel Reich, chair of the department of physics and astronomy at Hopkins wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "From the fundamental physics viewpoint, it is a very elegant demonstration of time reversal symmetry in coherent optics."

One potential use for this technology is in the field of high-speed computing. The computers

of tomorrow will use optical instead of electrical signals.

"As the authors suggest," continued Reich, "[this research] also holds out the potential for applications in optical communications technology, particularly if the effect can be made tunable so that it can work at multiple frequencies."

Other potential applications for the anti-laser in the field of biology include detection systems for pollutants as well as surgical devices that can focus energy to be absorbed at a specified depth under the skin. This could prove a very useful property in targeting a specific area of the body in medical imaging.

Hopkins physicist wins Einstein Medal

By LILY NEWMAN
Editor-in-Chief

A Hopkins researcher at the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI) and professor in the department of physics & astronomy was recently awarded the 2011 Einstein Medal for his work in examining the expansion of the

universe.

The Albert Einstein Society, based in Bern, Switzerland, acknowledged Adam Riess for leading the High-z Supernova Search Team during its research into the expansion of the universe.

The team published findings in 1998 indicating that the universe was actually expanding at an accelerating rate rather than a decelerating one.

"What we discovered was observational evidence for a theoretical idea that Einstein had first had in 1916," Riess said. "And the idea was that gravity can be repulsive as well as attractive. What we saw was the expansion rate of the universe is speeding up, that it's accelerating."

While the model describing the universe's expansion is mathematically complex, the principle is similar to more mundane phenomena. Riess offered an analogy to a loaf of raisin bread baking in the oven.

"Imagine that you're sitting on one of the raisins and you're looking at the other raisins," Riess said. "As the bread rises the other raisins seem to speed away, and it doesn't matter which raisin you're sitting on. Everyone has the sense that space is expanding around them. That is what we say about our universe, too."

The findings were unexpected and continue to hold major implications for astronomy and

theoretical physics. One of these is the identification of "dark energy" as the driving force behind the universe's expansion. Essentially, this force is a type of energy characterized by its properties of repulsion.

Rather than working as an attractive force, dark energy pushes things apart, acting as a counterforce to gravity.

The High-z team used observations of super novae, or exploding stars, to make their calculations about the expansion rate of the universe. Super novae were selected because scientists can calculate their luminosity, and can therefore determine their

distances from Earth and other markers in space. They were also selected simply because of their brightness.

"It allows us to make measurements over a very large distance range," Riess said.

Though the methods and

SEE RIESS, PAGE B9

Magnetic charges flow in spin ice to produce magnetricity

By SAM OHMER
Staff Writer

It's a current! It's a magnet! It's... magnetricity? Is there even such a thing?

In fact, there is such a thing as "magnetricity," according to a new study published in *Nature Physics* by scientists working in the U.K. and in France.

Specifically, the team's findings have built upon the previously demonstrated phenomenon of "magnetricity" by showing that long-lived currents of magnetic charges can be induced to flow through special substances like the so-called spin ice.

Spin ice's structure is key to researchers' ability to observe "magnetricity": its chemical formula can be either $\text{Ho}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$ (holmium titanate) or $\text{Dy}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$ (dysprosium titanate), but in either compound, the resulting chemical structure is peculiar, resembling the crystal structure of water molecules in ice.

As the individual molecules of spin ice come together, they do so in triangular pyramids, with adjacent pyramids sharing apices.

In spin ice, this strange configuration requires that two points of the pyramid have inward pointing magnetic spins while the other two point out. All the molecules in the array are thus satisfied.

According to Oleg Tchernyshyov, a physicist at Hopkins who is unrelated with the current findings, "spin ice has some resemblance to water ice in that both have some loose dipoles. In water ice, these are electric dipoles (water molecules are polar), whereas in spin ice these are

magnetic dipoles."

However, if something comes along and disrupts the carefully maintained magnetic balancing act, the spin ice is unhappy, and what results is called an excitation of the system. Interestingly, this excitation can lead to an even stranger phenomenon: magnetic monopoles.

In order to restore balance to the excited spin ice configuration, the "defective" magnetic spins are separated.

Sometimes this separation becomes large enough that the two magnetic "charges" act independently — and thus "magnetic monopoles" are born.

These magnetic charges are in a sense free of their original tetrahedral molecular arrangements and of each other. It is their freedom which then allows them to be manipulated by application of magnetic fields into moving as a "magnetric" current.

The amazing thing, however, is that these induced currents can be relatively long-lived — up to minutes, even, according to the study just published in *Nature Physics*.

While the finding that "magnetricity" exists is not a new one (magnetic charges/monopoles were first theorized by physicist Paul Dirac in the 1930s and magnetic currents were first observed in 2009 by Bramwell and his team in Britain), the ability to better characterize and study the magnetic monopoles responsible for



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The magnetic dipoles in spin ice crystals produce magnetic monopoles, or free magnetic charges.

the phenomenon is rather new — and rather exciting, too.

The behavior of "magnetricity" within spin ice in this arrangement is very much analogous to the behavior of electricity.

The magnetic "charges" even act according to predictions made by Coulomb's laws, which are usually applied to electric circuits.

Furthermore, the behavior of these magnetic "monopoles" in spin ice is highly reminiscent of the behavior of electricity in a well-known electric component: a capacitor. The spin ice seems to store the magnetic "charges" and release them over time — a handy trick if ever "magnetronic" devices should be invented in the future!

Electricity and magnetism have long been known and have

shown to be related (think of the electromagnetic light spectrum), but they aren't quite equal.

As Tchernyshyov wrote, "There is a profound asymmetry in Maxwell's equation[s]: they include electric charges, but not magnetic ones. Dirac's idea was to restore a complete symmetry and in the process explain the quantization of electric charge."

Despite the new findings showing that magnetic counterparts to electric charges can exist, magnetic currents and electric currents are different.

In particular, the movement of the charges through their respective conductors is quite disparate: whereas electrons can flow through a material to create a current, magnetic charges only move locally and instead induce

SEE MAGNETRICITY, PAGE B9



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The universe is expanding at an accelerating rate, Riess found.



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Electrical activity occurs in fetal brains as early as 20 gestational weeks

Early fetal brain activity mimics that of adults

By ALICE HUNG
Staff Writer

Unfixed postmortem human fetal brains show early neuronal activity and characteristics of mature cortical behavior, as shown in a study conducted by a research team from the University of Connecticut Health Center.

Numerous qualities of adult brains, including glutamate and GABA receptor activity and spontaneous electrical activity of subplate neurons, were noted in fetal neurons as young as 20 gestational weeks.

The study focused on the subplate zone, which is crucial in providing guidance to axonal projections in pattern formation for developing brains. This area contains the earliest born neurons (pioneer neurons), and was thus predicted to have the earliest electrical activity.

A sample size of five fetal brains was used, and all tissue preparation and physiological recordings were performed the same day the samples arrived.

The neurons studied were chosen based on four criteria: location in the subplate zone, appearance (one primary neurite directing towards the subventricular zone and several secondary neurites), large sodium currents and repeated action potential firing with current injection.

Four patterns of spontaneous electrical activity were recorded. Three patterns include neurons that spend most of the time at resting potential, neurons with a sharp depolarization of short duration and neurons with long-

lasting and action potentials with large amplitudes.

The most prevalent pattern showed long periods of long-lasting depolarization plateaus with bursts of full-size action potentials. This activity highly resembles adult brain activity during anesthesia and deep sleep.

Extracellular shocks were delivered to three locations to test for the presence of functional synapses: between the subplate and subventricular zone, between the subplate and cortical plate and lateral to the cell body. Results show that a significant percentage of subplate neurons are absent of synaptic activity, which may be caused by lack of ligand-gated receptors.

To determine the functionality of ligand-gated receptors, glutamate and GABA were separately injected. Glutamate injection was followed by an increase in amplitude of induced depolarization, while GABA injections caused robust hyperpolarization, suggesting that human brains contain functional neurotransmitter receptors as early as 20 gestational weeks.

Previous animal models showed changes in intracellular chloride concentration, causing GABAergic pathways to change from excitatory to inhibitory as neurons matured. Inhibitory activity of GABAergic neurons in fetal brains of this experiment were recorded under conditions in which relative chloride ion concentrations could not be preserved.

It is uncertain from this experiment as to whether GABA is excitatory or inhibitory in human brains at 20 gestational weeks.

By ANN WANG
Science & Technology Editor

Ever since Darwin proposed his theories in *On the Origin of Species*, scientists have been able to observe and explain many biological phenomena in which certain mutations start off as a rare occurrence in a population and then balloon into a widely possessed trait. But a widely accepted theory that explains this on a molecular level may have been disproven in a recent study by geneticists at the University of Chicago and the University of Oxford.

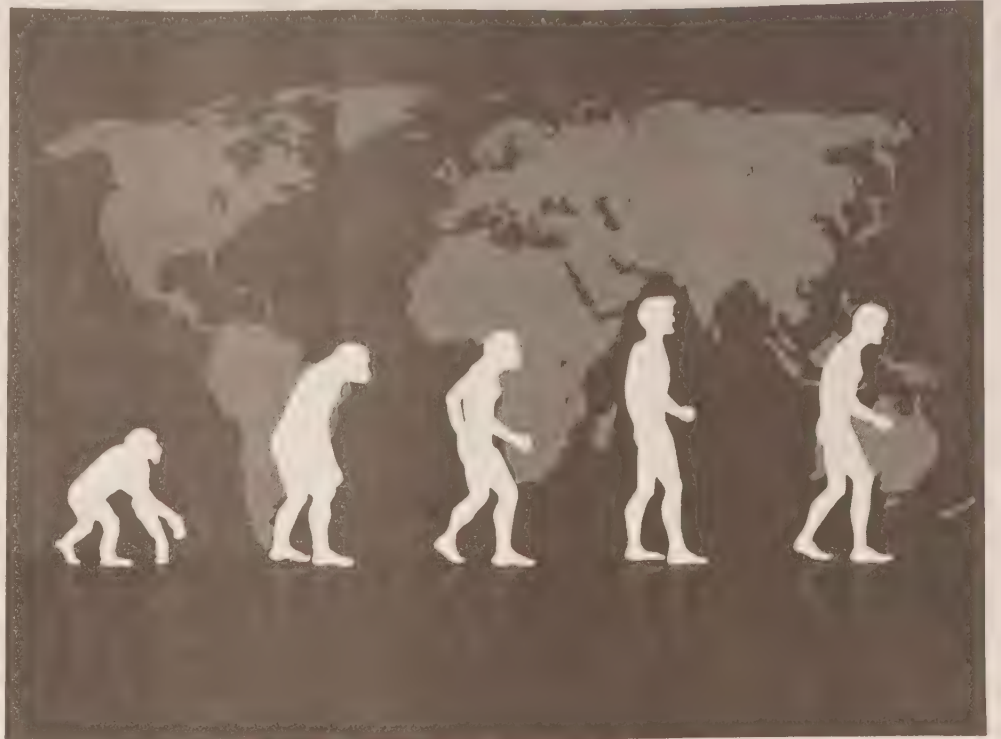
Generally, the spread of mutations in a population can be explained by natural selection. Favorable traits or characteristics in individuals or populations confer improved fitness to the trait's owner. As a result, these individuals are able to reproduce more effectively and increase the number of individuals that have the mutation. Eventually, most in the population will have the trait.

This phenomena can be observed on a larger scale. For example, during the Industrial Revolution, moth populations with darker pigmentation were better camouflaged in the high soot environment, which increased their chance of avoiding predators. Because of the improved fitness conferred by the mutation, dark pigmentation quickly spread through the moth population.

One example in humans is sickle cell anemia. Because the gene for the disease is co-dominant, if one copy of the gene is positive for sickle cell and the other is not, half of the individual's blood cells will be sickle-shaped and half will be normal. In Africa, where malaria is more prevalent, there is a much higher proportion of individuals who are heterozygous for the sickle cell trait. The sickle-shaped blood cells confer resistance to malaria, while the normal blood cells prevent full-scale sickle cell anemia from developing.

Though such phenomena can be observed on a larger scale, researchers have been developing theories to explain them from a molecular standpoint. One such theory, widely accepted in the scientific community, is the "classic selective sweep" model.

This model states that if a certain genetic mutation is favorable, the DNA adjacent to it, even though it does not play a role in the mutation, would also be preserved and passed down. The reasoning behind this is based on the assumption that the mutation would be so beneficial that it



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Selective sweeps may have occurred infrequently in early human evolution because populations were spread widely across the globe.

would be passed down and disseminated very quickly, preventing variations in the surrounding DNA from developing.

Therefore, if the model is correct, researchers should be able to observe low genetic diversity in DNA sequences around beneficial mutations. In this study, published in *Science* last month, they analyzed the genomes of 179 humans, looking to see whether this actually occurred.

They compared mutations in which changes in the nucleotide sequence would alter an amino acid in the encoded protein to mutations in which nucleotide changes would not alter it. Because a mutation in which an amino acid is changed is more

likely to confer an evolutionary advantage compared to a mutation in which nothing is different, the diversity in the adjacent DNA in the first case would be lower than in the second.

But after analyzing these genetic sequences, the researchers actually found little difference in the level of diversity between the two groups. This suggests that mutations in human populations may not have come about via the selective sweep model.

However, this does not imply that the model is incorrect, or that humans are not as heavily shaped by diversity from an evolutionary standpoint. Instead, it is possible that classic selective sweeps occurred too infrequently

to have had noticeable effects on genomic diversity. Furthermore, other scientists have suggested that because the human population is spread widely across the globe, any mutation that followed this model would have to confer a strong advantage to affect a significant proportion of the population.

Regardless, the researchers emphasize in the paper that future studies should rely less heavily on the selective sweep model to explain human adaptations. Even for a principle as well-established and accepted as natural selection, its molecular explanations are still in flux, and the most common mechanisms have yet to be discovered.

Ancient adaptation increases risk of diabetes

By BARBARA HA
Staff Writer

Recently, a group of scientists from the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Stanford University collaborated with experts and fellow researchers in Taiwan and Texas A&M University to further explore genes and associated metabolic factors within the human body that may cause diabetes and obesity among humans.

The study showed three variations of the gene that code for the protein GIP (gastric inhibitory polypeptide) cause differences in glucose metabolism among humans. These three variations of the gene were translated into proteins at lower rates than the normal GIP gene.

Since GIP helps to control blood glucose levels by stimulating the pancreas to secrete insulin, individuals who have the variations of the gene are more likely to have lower levels of the gene in their blood, leading to higher blood glucose levels.

In particular, the results proved especially relevant to women who were pregnant in the Eurasian population that had early roots in agriculture. In an

effort to match these GIP variants to a specific trait, the scientists hypothesized that perhaps the variants were associated with a genetic adaptation at a life stage that is vulnerable to environmental changes.

Because pregnancy represents a critical life stage that exposes individuals to excessive metabolic pressures, and because its success has a major impact on reproductive fitness, the researchers explored the link of the GIP variants to pregnancy.

Findings showed that pregnant women of Eurasian descent had a higher likelihood of possessing two copies of the low-activity form of the GIP gene.

In other words, women who have the variation of the gene were more at risk of having higher blood glucose levels than women who have the normal gene.

In today's society this may be a significant risk factor for gestational diabetes, or diabetes present during pregnancy.

Interestingly, the variant genes with lower activity than the original one arose somewhere in Eurasia approximately 8,100 years ago. Scientists theorize that the same trait that causes this gene to keep blood glucose levels higher

for pregnant women may have been a survival mechanism for women who were pregnant during famines or times when food supplies were inadequate.

The principal investigator of this study, Sheau Yu Teddy Hsu of Stanford University, and his colleagues speculated that because people in Europe and Asia at this time were transitioning from a hunter-gatherer lifestyle to one based on agriculture, the switch may have selected for genes that helped people adapt themselves to this new way of life.

Future studies will aim to test women from other populations to see if the gene acts the same way in everyone and if it might help predict who is likely to develop gestational diabetes.

Diabetes affects nearly 10 percent of individuals in the United States alone; this constitutes over 28 million children and adults.

In 2010, 1.9 million new cases of diabetes were diagnosed in people over 20 years of age. As a factor of mortality, diabetes contributed to a total of over 200,000 deaths per year, and can lead to complications including heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, blindness, kidney disease, nervous system disease and amputations. In 2007, diabetes cost the US over \$170 billion.

Diabetes is a group of diseases characterized by high blood glucose levels that result from defects in the body's ability to produce or use insulin that would help decrease the blood glucose level by absorbing the glucose out of the blood and into the cells.

Research on the early diagnosis of diabetes has been a cutting-edge field of research for scientists since the illness first surfaced decades ago. Researchers are now focusing on the genetics of diabetes in search of some answers.

Take-home STI test expands patient access

By ANNE MCGOVERN
Staff Writer

In 2004, Hopkins developed an online Chlamydia screening program which allows young adults in their teens and twenties to order home-testing kits. After performing the test, the patients mail the kit to a lab and then receive results by phone, email or text message.

In a recent study, Charlotte Gaydos, an infectious disease specialist and professor of medicine at Hopkins, and colleagues conducted a study to compare the prevalence of women tested positive for Chlamydia using the online program to those who tested positive in family planning clinics in Baltimore.

Their results showed that 10.3% of women using the online kit tested positive, whereas only 3.3% to 5.5% were positive in family planning clinics.

The findings do not imply that clinic tests too many false-negatives or that the home-kit has a larger number of false-positives. Rather, the results suggest that the online test reaches a broader, more diverse population. As a result, the results of the online kit are more in line with the actual Chlamydia infection rate among young women.

The CDC recommends that young women between the ages of 15 and 25 be screened for Chlamydia if they are sexually active. However, "a lot of young women don't have the money or insurance to go to a clinic or a doctor to have a test done," Gaydos said. "Or they might have the money, but don't want to ask their par-

ents for a ride to the clinic."

This is where the kit comes in: it is free, completely confidential, and can be ordered online at any time.

"The Internet is by far the most popular means of getting tested among this sexually active group, and at a time when they are most at risk of becoming infected," Gaydos said in an interview with *Futurity.org*.

Currently, the kit is offered in Alaska, Denver, Maryland, West Virginia, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. and Gaydos hopes to make it available throughout the country. "I think it'll be slow, but we get queries all the time asking how to get into the program. I've talked to officials from Wisconsin to California to Florida," Gaydos said. "However, it's important to remember that the kit is not the end all to be all."

One problem with the kit is that it is not FDA approved. "For a lab to test home-collected samples there has to be a laboratory verification study done," Gaydos said. The lab has to prove to the FDA that what they are doing is valid, which is a time-consuming and expensive process.

Nevertheless, Gaydos is hopeful. "Many research studies show that the program works, is



COURTESY OF WWW.MEDICOR.CO.UK
The free and confidential Chlamydia test can be ordered online.

acceptable to women, and also that they prefer it," Gaydos explained. "So I see no reason why it can't be approved."

The creators of the kit are always looking for new ways to market to the youth. Recently they created a bar code that can be photographed using a cell phone. The bar code opens an app that directs them to the website. "This is important for reaching underprivileged youth," Gaydos said on *Futurity.org*. "Especially those who can't afford a home computer and whose access to the Internet is mainly through their smart phones."

Chlamydia is a common disease that is likely to reoccur in those who have had it before. "The more times you have the infection the most likely you will develop an inflammatory disease," Gaydos said. The kit is just one method of helping a susceptible population prevent contraction.



COURTESY OF WWW.MOMMYMDGUIDES.COM
A gene variation that once helped women carry pregnancies to term, now increases their risk for diabetes.

Mutant fat allows fish to thrive in polluted rivers

By MELANIE HSU
Staff Writer

The Atlantic tomcod, a species of fish that evolved resistance to industrial toxins in just 50 years, could be the first documented case of pollution-driven vertebrate evolution.

Recent studies showed that the tomcod resists toxins in the Hudson River by storing the normally harmful compounds in fat.

According to Isaac Wirgin, associate professor of environmental medicine at New York University School of Medicine, this adaptation is not necessarily beneficial for the animals feeding on the tomcod.

Toxins in the tomcod can move up the food chain as the fish are consumed by predators, a process known as biomagnification.

Because the substances cannot be broken down naturally, tissue concentrations of the toxin will increase every time it moves up a tropic level. If a human happens to eat a contaminated organism, they could potentially ingest a potent dose of toxins.

Decades of exposure to industrial toxins that were dumped into the Hudson River have resulted in tomcods acquiring one of the highest liver PCB and dioxin levels known in nature.



COURTESY OF WWW.UNBCA Atlantic tomcods are able to store PCB toxins in their fat.

As tomcods cannot detoxify PCB, Wirgin was surprised that the fish could store large amounts of contamination without being poisoned. The team later found that a single gene mutation was responsible for this phenomenon.

All vertebrates have proteins that facilitate binding to dioxins and other related compounds. These aryl hydrocarbon receptors, or AHRs, will bind with poisons diffusing into the cell.

After the poison molecules and receptors pick up a third molecule, they will dock with DNA segments in the cell nucleus to turn on genes that can poison the animal.

Unlike other vertebrates, the tomcod has two types of AHRs: an AHR-2 that effectively binds to pollutants and an AHR-2 variant that requires five times the normal amount of pollutants to trigger binding.

In rivers with low dioxins and PCB levels, 95 percent of tomcods only possessed the standard form of AHR-2. However, in the significantly more polluted Hudson River, Wirgin's group found that 99 percent of tomcods had the poorly binding AHR-2.

While this is the first known case of vertebrate poison resistance, adaptations to poison have evolved many times in nature, sometimes as a response to human activities.

Some well-known examples of this include increasing bacterial resistance to antibiotics and DDT resistance in malaria-transmitting mosquitoes. Understanding the genetic and evolutionary causes of chemical resistance allows scientists to better exploit the system and more effectively address potential threats to human health.

New MacBooks incorporate Intel's Thunderbolt

In early 2010, Intel premiered a new connection technology that was going to leave all others in the dust. They called it Light Peak, and it was an optical connection that promised up to 10 Gigabits per second (Gbps) transfer rates, in both directions.

The barely existent USB 3.0 pushes up to 5 Gbps transfer rates, with real-world ideals topping out around 3.2 Gbps to 4.0 Gbps.

Intel claimed that the two technologies will co-exist in this world, similar to USB 2.0 and Firewire. However, we all saw what happened there — USB 2.0 dominated and Firewire was left to languish.

Intel piped higher than HD-quality video through the Light Peak connection while simultaneously transferring data, exciting audiences.

All in all, there was very little in the way of details and specifications. Throughout 2010, there were hints of its imminent release, but it was not until this past week that Apple finally broke the radio silence and revealed Thunderbolt.

Why Thunderbolt, and not Light Peak?

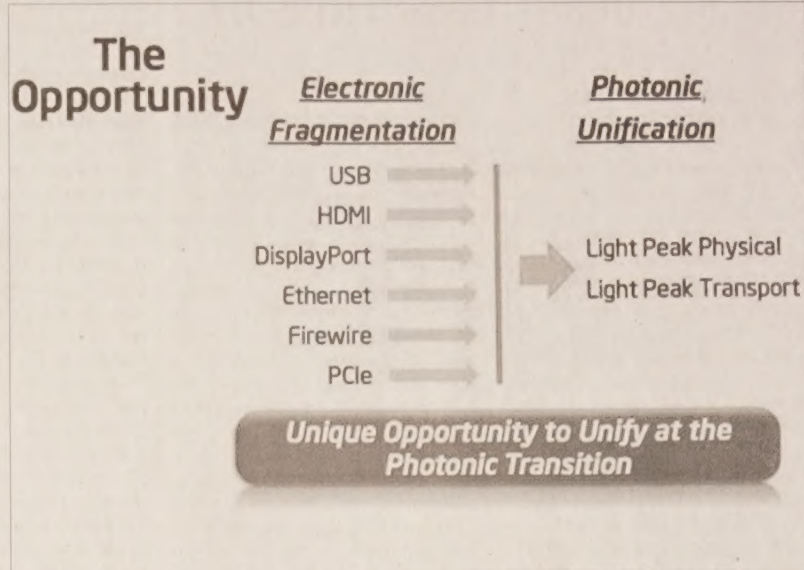
The two technologies are identical, so it seems that Intel has decided to name the prod-

uct Thunderbolt as a marketing ploy. There have also been some alterations to the design since it was last previewed.

Apple will be using a copper version of this connector on their refreshed line of MacBook Pros (MBP), which means no optical transfer rates, but the connection will have power.

In fact it will put out 10W of power, and is designed to be daisy-chained, which means you will be able to connect several devices to one port.

The port itself is compatible with DisplayPort, so you will be able to connect both your external monitor and other Thunderbolt devices to your MBP and power and send signal to all of it (your monitor



COURTESY OF WWW.INTEL.COM Intel's new Thunderbolt aims to unify your laptop's many electric connections into one fast, optical cable.

will probably need external power as usual; it doesn't have quite that much power).

It should be noted that this connection is not Apple-exclusive by any means; Apple just happens to be the first, hopefully of many, computer makers to offer Thunderbolt/Light Peak.

Right away, there are the comparisons to Firewire. Apple launched Firewire many years back in a similar fashion, trying to drive the industry forward with a radical new connector design in the face of the then popular USB 2.0 plug.

There are a few key differences this time around, however. Unlike USB 2.0 at the time of Firewire's launch, USB 3.0 is not even close to being firmly entrenched.

Intel has been slow about supporting USB 3.0 in their chipsets, which means that the connection has to be supported through an extra card, which has slowed adoption.

The lack of devices that use this speedy protocol is currently very limited, and those devices cost quite a premium over their USB 2.0 cousins.

Of course, Thunderbolt is not in the lead on any of those fronts by any means, but it seems this competition will be somewhat closer to a fair fight than when Firewire hit the scene.

One big factor that may be important in this battle of connection is that Thunderbolt is DisplayPort compatible. The industry is slowly moving to adopt

DisplayPort, but Apple is playing the dual strategy here of trying to get both adopted by creating this synergy of ports.

Apple can say, "Thunderbolt can run video over DisplayPort, which no other data transfer cables can accomplish." At the same time, it can say, "DisplayPort cables can use Thunderbolt ports, and therefore they will be more prevalent than other ports."

Some call this synergy; others call it circular logic. Whichever one you prefer, just remember that Thunderbolt is really fast, and it can daisy-chain (up to seven devices), allowing for a much broader array of devices that can be plugged into one device (i.e. a display, a harddrive, a flash drive, HD webcam, all streaming through one port).

To clarify, I am not saying that they will all plug into one port, just that with an appropriate accessory that can expand that port into multiple ports (analogous to USB hubs), you can hook up many devices to one port.

The real dream that Intel wanted to fulfill when they set about their project of making Light Peak was to create a connection that would unify all the protocols under the sun.

Light Peak/Thunderbolt is not a protocol in the way USB and Firewire and DisplayPort are. It is merely a physical connection method for getting the very many connections you have dangling out of your computer today to come together to one fast, optical cable.

That is the dream. We will see it happen eventually, but for now, we will live on copper.

Corpses don't dissolve as quickly in acid as Mafia claims

By ALEENA LAKHANPAL
Staff Writer

The men sit quietly in the dim room, anxious for news. A messenger delivers a package simply wrapped in brown paper and twine. They watch as it is opened, revealing a dead fish. "It means Luca Brasi sleeps with the fishes," Clemenza says ominously.

This well-known scene from the movie *The Godfather* is a common example of how organized crime syndicates would dispose of corpses.

Throwing bodies into the ocean or burying them in remote areas are often the preferred means of destroying the evidence. However, it was widely thought that the mafia could also chemically dissolve bodies to protect themselves from any possible evidence later.

Recently, researchers at the University of Palermo conducted several experiments to show that it is impossible to use acid to completely liquefy a corpse.

Testimony from Sicilian Mafia informants indicated that bodies would be placed in tubs of sulfuric acid for 15 to 20 minutes, after which they would dissolve into a liquid state. Forensic scientists have used partial pig carcasses,

which are often used as substitutes for human bodies, to test such testimony.

They found that after 15 to 20 minutes in concentrated sulfuric acid, the pig carcass was indeed unrecognizable, but still solid for the most part.

The study began when investigators discovered a Sicilian Mafia hideout brimming with barrels of potent sulfuric acid. In the area, the room was known as "the chamber of death." It was believed that the acid was used to perform "white shotgun crimes," or "lupara bianca" as they are known in Italy.

Essentially, white shotgun crimes are murders where the body is never discovered; it is known that someone has been killed, but there is no body to be found.

Using the testimony from the mafia informants, researchers tested acid of a similar concentration only to find that bodies would not completely disintegrate, contrary to what they had been told.

While the Sicilian Mafia is world-renowned for infamous murders and crimes that infiltrated even the highest political offices, the University of Palermo investigators joked that their perception of time is not partic-

ularly accurate.

However, in comparison to lesser crime syndicates, the Italians are much better at making sure that the bodies are relatively unrecognizable. Atlanta medical examiner Michael Heninger told *Wired Science* that some criminals end up doing more to preserve a body rather than destroy it.

Forensic analysts are not fully sure how this new information will help future investigations. As long as there is organized crime, there will be mysteriously missing bodies. The creative ways in which corpses are disposed of remain numerous and of course, exaggerated by the various mafia movies produced by Hollywood.

Hearing loss may stress brain, cause neurological problems

DEMENTIA, FROM B7
loss were 1.6 times more likely to develop dementia than persons with mild hearing loss. Furthermore, this number increased to 2.6 for those persons with severe hearing loss.

The researchers proposed several theories for the relationship between these two conditions.

The first possibility is that the two conditions share a similar pathway of development. However, the researchers did not consider this a viable option since the methods of measuring hearing

loss did not require an activation of high levels of sound processing in the brain, the kind of high levels that are investigated in diagnosing dementia. Another proposal is that the increasing strain of decoding sounds that comes with age could put a strain on the patient's brain, thereby increasing the risk of developing dementia.

Finally, the researchers speculated that the social isolation that is sometimes found in persons with hearing loss could lead to dementia, as it is a known risk factor for this cognitive disorder.

Riess honored for work on universe's expansion

RIESS, FROM B7
results have now endured more than 10 years of scrutiny, their validity was questionable in the late 1990s because they were so unexpected.

"The experiment was not, 'Hey let's see if Einstein's idea in 1916 was right.' We were just checking what we thought, that the universe's expansion was slowing down," Riess said. "When findings are so different than what you expect, usually the simplest answer is true, that you made a mistake. And at some point it's just the method of deduction that when you've checked every-

thing else, what you have must be right."

Riess and his team share the 2011 Einstein prize with the Supernova Cosmology Project. Led by astrophysicist Saul Perlmutter of the University of California, Berkeley and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the group published similar results soon after Riess and another High-z team colleague, Brian Schmidt.

The two teams have shared other awards as well. Riess says that the doubling has been positive because it eased the scientific community's reservations about

the radical and unexpected findings.

"I think that competitiveness in science can be better than in any other area," Riess said. "[Take] competitiveness in search engines between Yahoo and Google. Maybe there can only be one winner, but in science we're so interested in the right answer, we're so conservative and nervous that we made a mistake, that when two people get the same answer we rejoice. We love the redundancy of redoing an experiment and making sure you get the same answer."

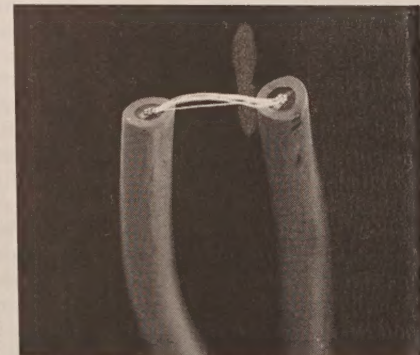
Magnetic charges separate and flow as free monopoles

MAGNETRICITY, FROM B7
a "current" by inciting their neighboring dipoles to flip.

"Collective motions of these [magnetic] dipoles can be seen as the propagation of a single monopole over a long distance," Tchernyshyov wrote.

In other words, this domino effect of long lines of dipoles flipping is what is observed as "magnetricity."

One monopole's effective path through a conductor inherently blocks the way for subsequent



COURTESY OF WWW.MYELECTRICENGINE.COM A current is formed when neighboring dipoles "flip."

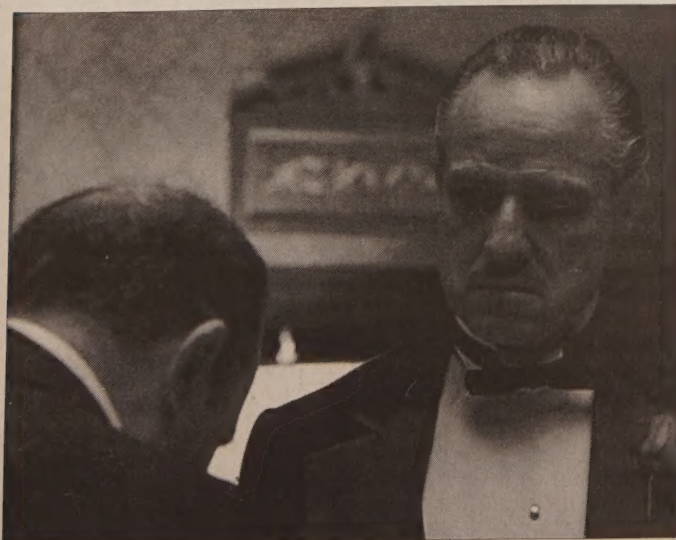
monopoles; this means "magnetricity" will never be able to achieve direct currents (DC), though it is possible that alternating current (AC) based "magnetronic" devices could.

String theory buffs out there, don't get too excited just yet: monopoles observed in spin ice aren't quite the true magnetic monopoles of Dirac's predictions (monopoles which would prove to be the holy grail for string theorists).

However, they are important models for how such charges might act and react empirically.

That's not to say that magnetic monopoles can't exist out of the stringent conditions found in spin ice (which must be kept in a super-condensed state at nearly absolute zero).

In fact, other teams of researchers have already shown that micro-arrays of nanowires can exhibit the same "magnetic" properties as spin ice — so there is still hope for finding those elusive monopoles.



COURTESY OF WWW.ANNARBOR.COM Mafia informants claimed that bodies would dissolve in sulfuric acid in minutes.

NBA playoff races heat up as trade deadline sprints by

By JARED FRYDMAN
Staff Writer

A week after the National Basketball Association (NBA) trade deadline, the hype surrounding the big trades has subsided, and we move forward to analyze a few large transactions. Several moves were made prior to last week's trade deadline; some were planned for weeks while others occurred unexpectedly Thursday morning. What teams walked away from the Feb. 24 deadline a winner and who were the losers? Ahead, I'll break down the trades with the greatest implications.

First and foremost, the blockbuster trade sending Carmelo Anthony to the New York Knicks was speculated about for months, finally becoming a reality weeks before the trade deadline. The finalized trade included fourteen players and three teams, the Denver Nuggets, New York Knicks and Minnesota Timberwolves. The Knicks received Carmelo Anthony, Chauncey Billups, Shelden Williams, Anthony Carter, Renaldo Balkman and Corey Brewer. The Nuggets received Raymond Felton, Wilson Chandler, Danilo Gallinari, Timofey Mozgov and Kosta Koufos. The Timberwolves received Anthony Randolph and Eddy Curry.

The Knicks not only added a prolific scorer in Randolph, but a seasoned veteran in Chauncey Billups. A proven point guard with an NBA Finals ring, Billups is known around the league for his late-game heroics (he's nicknamed Mr. Big Shot). Unfortunately, the Knicks sacrificed a lot of depth to pursue the trade. A load of young talent was shipped off to Denver, including New York's 22-year-old 2008 first-round pick Danilo Gallinari. On the upside, New York has the presence of two established superstars in their starting lineup with Carmelo Anthony and Amar'e Stoudemire. On the contrary, the Knicks lack the defensive ability and the depth coming off of the bench to prove that they can truly contend with the top teams in the Eastern Conference. Only time will tell whether the players can mesh with one another and whether the trade will work out positively for the Knicks.

On the other side of the trade, Denver added a lot of young talent and balance to their roster. The Nuggets are a team that has the potential to be a force in the Western Conference. Currently the fifth-seeded team, Denver now has a very deep bench with players Raymond Felton, Wilson Chandler, JR Smith and Al Harrington, two of whom were starters in their tenure with the Knicks. The ex-starters will see decent minutes coming off the bench, and allow current Nuggets starters to receive some much-needed rest. Overall, the two teams come away from the trade satisfying their individual needs and improving their chances of competing come playoff time. As for the Minnesota Timberwolves, the struggling team has won just 14 games this year and is dead last in the Western Conference. Clearly the loser of the trade, Minnesota is looking for any spark to inspire a season turnaround, adding two big men who have only played a combined 127 minutes this season.

Moving down the east coast to New Jersey, the Nets did not land Carmelo Anthony, but managed to grab a superstar of their own at the trade deadline. The Utah Jazz agreed to send Deron Williams to the New Jersey Nets

for Devin Harris, Derrick Favors and two future first round draft picks.

The Nets and Jazz both seem to walk away from the trade as winners. New Jersey added a top five NBA point guard in Williams, currently averaging twenty points and ten assists per game. Williams is the type of player who makes everyone around him better, drawing the attention of the defense while quarterbacking his offense and giving his teammates open opportunities. The Nets did give up their 2010 first round pick in Derrick Favors and a solid point guard in Devin Harris, but they finally gained a true superstar to build a team around. New Jersey only has 17 wins this season and the trade may not have a great impact on how the team finishes the year, but it will have a great impact in years to come. On the opposite side of the deal, Utah is also in a rebuilding process. In a Western Conference that is too powerful for the tenth-seeded Jazz, Utah is looking to add young pieces. Harris will try to reestablish himself as a premier NBA player in Utah and Favors should eventually emerge as a capable role player. Both teams attempted to patch the holes in their rosters, and the deal should pay off well for both sides.

The final trade we'll discuss is the Boston Celtics dealing Kendrick Perkins and Nate Robinson to the Oklahoma City Thunder for Jeff Green and Nenad Krstic. This trade is baffling, and makes no sense on the side of the Celtics. Boston missed Perkins heavily in the NBA Finals last year, saying that his size and rebounding against the Lakers front line would have propelled the Celtics through the championship. If this was the case, why trade him for two underachieving players who will see very limited minutes in Boston? The trade was remarked as being "idiotic" by ESPN's Bill Simmons (known for his personality as "The Sports Guy"), who went on to say he would rather lose the 2011 title with Perkins than try to win it without him. Many believe the Celtics may have kissed their championship hopes goodbye with the stupidity of the trade.

The Thunder on the other hand are ecstatic. The trade allows them to finally compete with the strength and size of other top teams out west, and having a proven seven-footer standing underneath the rim will provide a post presence on both sides of the ball. The fourth-seeded Thunder will look to be a prominent contender for the title come playoff time.

Overall there was a lot of action over the past week. Some teams were building for the future, others believe that the time to win is right now. Multiple teams filled their respective needs while others gave up pivotal pieces needed for a championship run. Other teams, like the Chicago Bulls or the Miami Heat, didn't make any moves at all — instead looking to continue the formula that they've established.

Routinely, the moves made at the trade deadline take time for the effects to become noticeable. New components are integrated into the playing style of different coaches. Players are still learning to play with their new teammates and get comfortable living in new cities. As the NBA season heads into the final six weeks before the playoffs, we will see how effective it is for teams to give players a change of scenery at the deadline.

Club Rugby enjoys, competes in The Battle of Baltimore

By ALEX SARGEANT
Staff Writer

The Hopkins club rugby team traveled to Bocek Field over on East Madison Street to compete in The Battle of Baltimore this past weekend, a round robin tournament also featuring Baltimoreans Loyola and UMBC.

The Jays lost both matches, but no one lost too much sleep. The team has not won a match since last spring and slight improvements are enough of a victory for the short time being.

Hopkins club rugby faces several challenges that many other clubs do not, making wins second to just having fun. For one, it's tough to win with a revolving door of players, most of whom are forced to play out of position.

Another challenge the Jays face is a lack of a consistent head coach or fitness program which makes player development difficult. While local rivals Loyola and UMBC boast several coaches and upwards of 60 to 70 players, Hopkins' team played this weekend without a coach and just 20 players overall.

The team's demographics are about as random as any sport on campus. There is a mix bag of small and slow and fast and athletic and unathletic kids that make practice interesting to say the least.

Some guys were high school football players, others hockey players and there is at least one high school sailor in the bunch. Representatives from England, France and Ghana take the field each week and Wawa, SAE and Phi Si all have bros rucking it up.

Despite their differences, however, all these men have one thing in common, and that is a certain brain malfunction that makes running onto a field with only a mouth piece of padding to play a full contact sport seem normal.

Some of them use it for a distraction. "I enjoy the chance to get away from schoolwork and studying for a while," said sophomore forward Logan Martin. "It's all around just a great stress relief and an awesome workout."

Others, like transfer student Guillaume de La Batut, enjoy the pace and physical nature of the game.

"You can't play with half intensity, it's about who wants it more, no matter the level of skill or experience," La Batut said.

La Batut is one of the more experienced ruggers on the squad coming from France where the sport is second only to soccer.

He also likes the jovial nature of the post-game celebrations where "people will hurt

each other as hard as they can during 80 minutes and then just go have a beer together."

Post-game drink-offs are a commonality in rugby, and it's an essential part of Hopkins' team, almost as important as the game itself. Still dressed in uniform with knees scraped and faces bloody, the two teams will embark on a celebration of their manhood with songs, chants and plenty of beer. Drink-offs are loud, rude and smell terrible. In other words, they're awesome.

According to Martin, "The team has not lost a drink up in several years," something Hopkins' team is very proud of.

This week's Dirty Dozen made their way to Bocek Field seeking a victory to make the beers afterwards taste a little better. The first match against the number one seed Loyola Greyhounds was unorthodox and see-saw fashioned showdown.

Hopkins took a 3-0 lead early on following a Jonny Rogers penalty kick, but the Jays went into halftime down 5-3 after Loyola scored at the end of the half.

The second stanza was more eventful. After another Loyola try, making the score 10-3, the match started getting wild. An inexperienced referee was unable to control the game and was forced to

call it with time still on the clock after several cheap shots.

The UMBC match was a defensive struggle and both sides were scoreless through one half. In the second half, both squads put in their B-sides and UMBC was able to pull away with three tries to hand Hopkins their second defeat of the afternoon.

The squad probably could be a little more organized.

"We're still a little slow on getting set up and being properly positioned on the field, but this is just an inexperience issue and we should be able to correct that pretty easily," said sophomore Martin.

Hopkins is still dying to capture that elusive first victory of the calendar year. It could come as soon as March 12th when the Jays host UMBC on the Hopkins Rec Center turf.

The Jays hope for their largest roster of the season because the game is at night.

The games are more entertaining than mud wrestling. From the most sophisticated aficionado of sport to someone that just enjoys watching some dude get blind-sided in the open field, there's something for everyone in Hopkins rugby.

A good crowd on Saturday could be the perfect brew for a Hopkins victory.

Wrestling finishes second in CC playoff meet

Marcello, Mosquera qualify for NCAA appearances

By KYLE HALLERAN
Staff Writer

The Hopkins wrestling team traveled to Lexington, Virginia to compete in the Centennial Conference Championships this past weekend. The Jays placed second and returned home with two individual titles.

They finished the tournament with an impressive 75.5 points. Just ahead of them was the United States Merchant Marine Academy which captured its fourth consecutive conference crown with 115 points, while Stevens finished in third, a mere fifteen points behind the Jays.

The dynamic sophomore duo of Paul Marcello and Reid Mosquera claimed the 133 and 197 weight classes, respectively. The Jays' tournament performance is the best post-season finish in school history. Prior to this season, the Jays had placed third three times.

With their tournament domination, Marcello and Mosquera were made eligible to participate in the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships next weekend in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Marcello will compete in the NCAA Championships for the second consecutive season while Mosquera has a chance to improve upon his already impressive

20-6 record.

In the tournament, senior co-captain Eric Levenseller, a three seed, won his first two bouts to face defending national champion Wince Renault from the USMMA. Levenseller defeated his Muhlenberg opponent by a score of 4-3 and then upset the second-seeded General from Washington & Lee by the same score. Levenseller put up a scrappy fight against the nation's best in the 165-pound weight class,

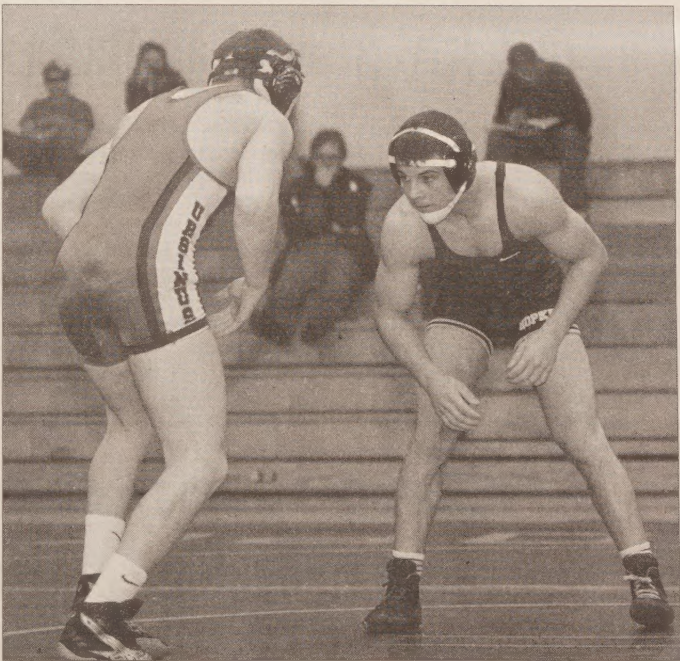
paign, took down his McDaniel and Gettysburg opponents, falling only to Lee Dormann, the third-seed from Stevens.

Crystal dominated his Muhlenberg opponent, pinning him in a quick 51 seconds, and also won his Ursinus and McDaniel matches. He fell to USMMA's James Besheda in the semis.

In arguably the most competitive weight class, 174 pounds, Hopkins senior Patrick Stanley finished in third place. Stanley dominated his first round opponent, Daniel Igel of Washington & Lee, getting the win in 1:43. In the consolation matches, Stanley defeated his McDaniel and Gettysburg counterparts to stand alone in third. Stanley ends his Hopkins career with an impressive senior season to the tune of 24-6.

Jay junior Ben Finelli outperformed his fifth seed to finish in fourth place in the 184-pound division. Finelli got a consolation win against Scott Forrester from McDaniel College 12-4.

While Hopkins' 2010-2011 season was one for the record books, the Jays have a chance to fly even higher next year. The Jays return many talented underclassmen for the 2011-2012 season, including Marcello and Mosquera, and look like a prime candidate to claim the Centennial Conference Championship.



Sophomore Paul Marcello won the individual title at 133 pounds for the second straight year.

Women's track wins Centennial Conference

By MIKE KANEN
Sports Editor

This past weekend, the Hopkins men's and women's track and field squads travelled to Haverford, Pennsylvania to compete in the Centennial Conference Championships.

The women's team, which has finished second behind Haverford the past four years, finally escaped the Fords shadow this year on the backs of several key contributors to win the school's first ever indoor-track championship.

The men's team finished fourth behind Haverford, Ursinus and Muhlenberg, but they too had many solid events.

Late in the competition, the Jays looked bound for yet another second-place finish behind Haverford. Despite *The News-Letter's* Athlete of the Week senior Christina Valerio's victories in the 3000- and 5000-meter races, sophomore Alana Merkow's individual title in the shotput, and senior Logan Ashcraft's second-place finish in the pole vault, Hopkins' fate would rest in a pair long jumpers.

Sophomore Kristen Spera was the day's clutch performer as she jumped well over 16 feet to leapfrog three competitors and go from fourth to third and win the long jump. Thanks to Spera and fellow sophomore Laura Bartos's seventh place finish, the Jays were able to take the crown after a third place finish in the 4x400 meter relay.

The men were led by freshman Alex Jebb's third place finish in the triple jump, freshman David O'Neil's bronze in the long jump, and the distance medley team consisting of freshmen Andrew Minnicucci and Steve Hyland, sophomore Ben Press and senior Brandon Hahn.

BLUE JAY ATHLETICS SCOREBOARD

M. LACROSSE

Saturday, February 26:

Hopkins 16, Siena 6

BASEBALL

Wednesday, March 2:

Hopkins 6, York 2

W. LACROSSE

Saturday, February 26:

Hopkins 8, Princeton 9

WRESTLING

Saturday, February 26:

Centennial Conference Championships
Finish second (75.5 points)

W. BASKETBALL

Saturday, February 26:

Hopkins 71, F&M 59

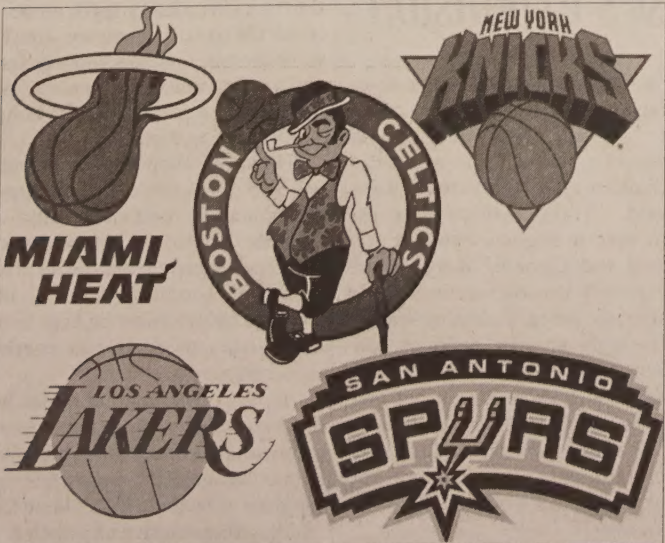
Sunday, February 27:

Hopkins 61, Muhlenberg 72

TRACK

Saturday, February 26:

Centennial Conference Championships
Men placed 4th
Women placed 1st



SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK CHRISTINA VALERIO - WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

By **TREVOR WILLIAMS**
Staff Writer

This time last year, senior Christina Valerio was sitting out Hopkins's spring track season with a stress fracture in her shin. Just a year later, Christina and the women's track and field team are experiencing unprecedented success.

Last week the Lady Jays captured their first ever indoor-track Centennial Conference championship, which marked a breakthrough for the program, as they had found themselves in a second-place finish

the last four years as runners-up to foe Haverford College.

Valerio was the biggest story of the weekend as she grabbed a win in the 3000- and 5000-meter races, recording her career-best times in both events with times of 10:12.63, and 17:24.84, respectively.

Valerio's blazing fast time in the 5000-meter will qualify her for the individual competition at the NCAA championships. In addition to these being the first races she'd won at the collegiate level, the indoor championships would also mark the first times Valerio had placed during a race,

making her achievements last week all the more exciting and special.

"That was the race I was hoping to qualify for, for nationals," Valerio said of her 5000-meter victory, noting that her success in the long distance event can largely be attributed to the heavy workload of miles she undertakes during cross-country season.

The indoor championship gives the Jays a trifecta of sorts — the women's track and field team won the outdoor Centennial championship last spring, followed by a cross-country championship this past fall and now the indoor championship, placing Hopkins at the top of the Centennial in the three different seasons.

"Overall we are more confident, and as a result of this, everyone on the team is working harder," said Valerio of the team's recent conference dominance.

None of these team accomplishments would have been possible without Valerio, but to say that her unprecedented recent success was a surprise would be putting it lightly.

In a sport that demands such extreme cardiovascular training and fitness, the progress lost by a runner through injury, especially the kind of injury experienced by

Valerio, is enormous.

In describing her gradual ascent back to and beyond the times

that she had been hitting prior to injury, Valerio was very candid.

"During cross-country season, I got off to a very slow start," she said. "It wasn't until we got to the champi-

VITAL STATISTICS

Year: Senior
Major: Behavioral Biology

Looking healthy and performing well during the indoor season, Christina has the chance to go places this spring. She will play a pivotal role this year on the distance squad of the track team. Look for her in the 10,000-meter this season.

onship part of the season that I began to see my times go down to where they'd been."

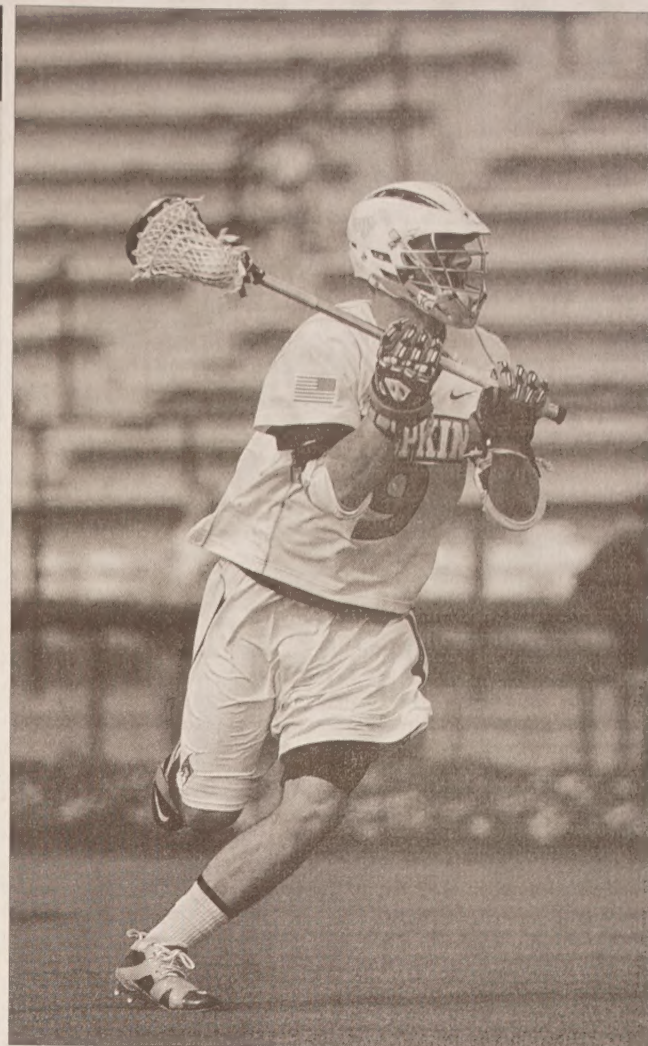
Only a few months later, Valerio is enjoying the best times of her running career and hoping to build on them during the outdoor season come spring.

Despite already qualifying for the NCAA's as an individual with her time in the 5000-meter, her favorite event is the 10,000-meter, a race unique to the spring outdoor season.

If last week's events are any indication, Valerio should be a runner to watch for the upcoming outdoor season, as she seems to be peaking at the perfect time.

As a senior who's seen the transformation of the Hopkins track and cross-country programs into the Centennial's elite, she's eager to see the team continue its success.

"We want to keep that trophy here," she said. The way Valerio is running now, it doesn't look like it's going anywhere anytime soon.



EDDIE WANG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Sophomore John Greeley scored three goals with two assists vs. Siena this weekend.

Blue Jays dominate Saints in home opener, Princeton next

By **MIKE PORAMBO**
Staff Writer

The Hopkins men's lacrosse team, coming off an 18-5 drubbing of the nationally-ranked Delaware, continued the trend this weekend with a 16-6 onslaught of Siena in the team's first affair at Homewood Field. The Saints had no answers for JHU's midfielders and attackmen, who scored goals at will easily and often.

Led by senior attackman and co-captain Chris Boland and sophomore midfielder John Greeley, who each scored three times and added two assists, the Jays had nine different players find the back of the net, improving the ninth-ranked Jays to 3-0 on the season. The Saints fall to 1-2.

Hopkins kicked off the goal scoring early. Just 36 seconds in, freshman midfielder Rob Guida made a nice cut to beat his man, and Boland found him next to the net for an easy goal.

In one of the few instances where the Siena attack appeared organized, the Saints answered with an extra-man goal 30 seconds later to tie the game at 1-1.

The rest of the quarter belonged to the Jays, more specifically Boland. He had a natural hat trick to end the quarter, and the Jays entered the second quarter up 4-1.

The Saints were outshot 15-2 in the first quarter, and had the exceptional play of goalie Tom Morr to thank for keeping the game under control early on. In the first quarter alone, Morr had six saves. His luck did not last, though, as he failed to make another save in the game and was pulled at halftime.

Greeley and fellow sophomore midfielder John Ranagan got things going in the second quarter, ably power-dodging defenders and beating Morr left and right.

With senior midfielder Matt Dolente dominating face-offs all day, the Siena offense was barely able to touch the ball, and when they did, their sloppy, uncoordinated attack had no shot against the relentless and aggressive defensive unit of sophomores Tucker Durkin, Chris Lightner and freshman Jack Reilly.

The unit forced turnovers, scooped up ground balls and forced Siena attackmen to take poor, savable shots on sophomore goalie Pierce Bassett who had 12 saves on the day.

Bassett, though, refused to take credit for his high level of play.

"We had a good game plan going in," he said. "Our defenders and defensive middies played at a high level, forcing outside and weak-hand shots, shots I can see. Credit goes to the people in front of me today."

To close out the half, senior attackman and co-captain Kyle Wharton found himself open with the ball, perfect for a sharp feed to wide-open sophomore Zach Palmer for an easy goal. Wharton had a career-high three assists.

The second half told a similar story. The Jay offense continued to roll, Dolente continued to win face-offs and the defense stymied what few scoring chances the Saints had.

The Jays opened up the second half with five goals, allowing Siena to only score once. Hopkins needed just two minutes to get the goal-scoring started again, as sophomore midfielder Chase Winter scored his first career goal as a Jay.

"It feels great to get that pressure off my back," said Winter. "Boland hit me with a great pass, and I was able to put it at the goalie's feet."

Adding to the scoring spree in the third was Greeley (twice), Dolente and freshman midfielder Eric Ruhl. With 10:32 to play, Dolente won the face-off, scooped up the ball, ran down the field and beat goalie Bill Kelly for his first of the season. Ruhl scored an unassisted goal on a top-right rip that pushed the Jays lead to 12-3.

For the final 23:30 of the game, Hopkins outscored the Saints 4-3, as Guida, Ranagan and Palmer all scored their second goals of the day, with freshman midfielder Rex Sanders scoring his first career goal.

After successfully killing a two-man down situation and allowing only four goals on the day, Bassett was pulled for junior Steven Burke at the beginning of the fourth quarter. When the buzzer sounded, the Jays walked off the field with a 16-6 win.

Saturday's stat-book was littered with Hopkins dominance. The Jays dominated the shot count 48-24, scooped up almost twice as many ground balls (37-19) and won twice as many face-offs (16-8). Hopkins successfully cleared the ball 15 times in 17 attempts, while the Saints were a mediocre 16-22.

The Jays got huge production from their first attack unit and first midfield unit. Boland, Palmer and Wharton combined for five goals and five assists, while Greeley, Ranagan and Guida added seven goals and two assists.

"It felt great to be able to contribute today," said Guida of his two goals.

In their toughest game yet this season, the Jays welcome the nationally-ranked Princeton Tigers down to Homewood Field on Saturday March 5th for their 81st meeting all time. Face-off is scheduled for 1:00 p.m.



COURTESY OF CARLA LASETER
Senior Christina Valerio led the Lady Jays to their first indoor-track conference title.

W. Lacrosse suffers close loss against Princeton

By **RYAN KAHN**
Staff Writer

Going into Saturday's match-up against Princeton, the 2-0 Hopkins women's lacrosse team looked to capitalize on their strong start to the season. Down 5-3 at halftime, the Tigers made a comeback and then held off a Jay comeback of their own to win the match, 9-8.

"Our team morale is still really positive even though we were bummed about the loss," junior defenseman Alyssa Kildare said when asked about the team's morale. "We never want to lose a game, especially by one goal."

Even though Princeton got off to a quick lead, scoring the first two goals of the match in the opening ten minutes, Hopkins was even quicker in their response. After Tiger goals from Cassie Pyle and Barb Previ, the Jays soured their moment with four unanswered goals.

Sophomore attackman Katie Duffey started the rally with an unassisted goal with 15:29 on the clock. Junior attackman Candace Rossi found the back of the net just 37 seconds after Duffey's goal, tying the game at two apiece.

Freshman midfielder Sarah Taylor then took matters into her own hands with a pair of goals towards the end of the half.

This put Hopkins up 4-2. Princeton's Charlotte Davis fired back with a goal of her own but reluctant to go into the half with a one-goal lead, senior midfielder Brianna Cronin scored with merely five seconds left. Hopkins went into the half with momentum and a 5-3 lead.

The Tigers came out hot after the half cutting Hopkins's lead to one after a goal by Jaci Gassaway just over a minute in. Soon after, fellow Tiger Pyle struck again, tying the game at five with an unassisted goal with 26:10 left in the match. Princeton then took the lead with a third unanswered goal by Davis.

The unanswered goal gave the Tigers their first lead since early in the first half, but the Princeton run didn't stop there. Sam Ellis capitalized on a good feed from Carline Rehffuss, scoring her first

D'Amore answered with an unassisted goal of her own, tying the game up for the third time, 8-8.

With time running out, Princeton's Davis hit Gassaway on a well-placed pass allowing her to score. The last three minutes went by with a strong defensive stand from the Tigers and the Jays were unable to answer. Gassaway's goal proved to be the finisher in a game that was valiantly fought back and forth.

Despite the loss, the Jays saw a lot of positives out of the match. Freshman Sarah Taylor broke onto the scene with her first career multi-goal game. Sophomore Cosette Larash finished the day with six saves for the Jays.

With a current record of 2-1, the Jays aren't dwelling on the past.

"We're all really looking to Stony Brook this weekend," said Kildare. "We realize we have some things we have to fix, but we're ready to get back to work this week and sure some things up."

We had an awesome practice [Monday], and we're really excited for the challenges coming up the rest of the season."

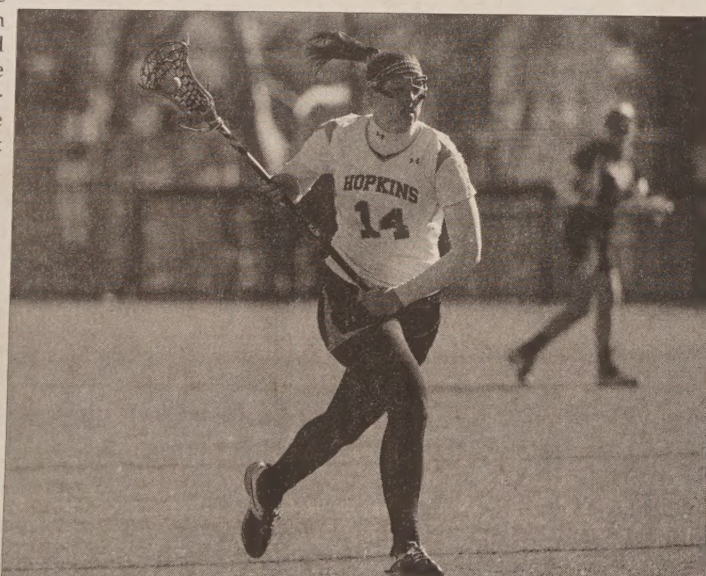
Kildare's positive attitude is shared throughout the team and is exemplified in their strong start to the season, which hopefully leads to the playoffs.

Kildare is one of many expecting great things from her team.

"We have a lot of talent on our team, and we do a great job of pushing each other at practice," she said.

"If we kill each other at practice, then it makes it that much easier come game time. We have the opportunity to do some pretty great things this year."

The Jays have a couple of days off before they take the field again. They return to action on Saturday, March 5th at Stony Brook. Face-off is slated for 1:00 p.m.



EDDIE WANG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Junior attackman Colleen McCaffrey scored a goal against Princeton, her sixth of the year.

goal of the season. Previ was next as she scored again, to put the Tigers up 8-5 with only 8:31 left in the game. This gave the Tigers five unanswered goals.

Something clicked with the Hopkins offense with time running out in the game, though, as the Jays sparked a strong comeback effort.

Kildare was the first to respond after 22 minutes without a Jay goal. Kildare made the most out of a Tiger turnover and scored in transition.

In a game where quick back-to-back goals were the fashion, Hopkins's late comeback was no exception. Junior attackman Colleen McCaffrey put the game at 8-7 with a goal less than a minute after Kildare's.

After McCaffrey's unassisted point, freshman midfielder Taylor

SPORTS

Did You Know?

Freshman fencer Jackie Heath went 15-1 with the foil this weekend at the Eastern Women's Fencing Conference's individual championships to garner Fencer of the Year honors.

CALENDAR

SATURDAY
M. Lacrosse vs. Princeton 1 PM
M. Tennis vs. Vassar 1 PM
MONDAY
Baseball vs. Rutgers-Newark 2:30 PM

W. Basketball falls in CC play, head to NCAAs Friday

By CLAYTON RISCHE
Sports Editor

The Hopkins women's basketball team battled through the Centennial Conference tournament this past weekend. On Saturday they faced Franklin & Marshall and won 71-59, placing the ladies in the conference final on Sunday.

In the final against Muhlenberg, the majority of the game was fought on close terms, with a small point differential dividing the Blue Jays and the Mules. However in the last minutes of the game, Muhlenberg established a lead which held until the clock ticked down to zero. The final between Muhlenberg and Hopkins was 72-61.

The game against F&M was spearheaded by senior Lyndsay Burton. She managed a career high, scoring 29 points on the game. It was not a clean shooting game for either team, as both were below 35 percent on shots in the first half.

At the half the score was 30-27 with Hopkins in the lead. Burton didn't take the win on her own however, she had a great deal of backup from the rest of the Hopkins women. Juniors Chantel Mattiola and Stephanie Fong recorded 16 and 12 points, respectively.

F&M managed to make it a one point game six minutes into the second half, but that was immediately shut down by the Jays, who went on a 13-2 point break by Hopkins's players Mattiola, Burton, freshman Fatu Conteh and sophomore Sarah Higbee.

After the run the ladies stood 54-42 over the Diplo-

mats, a lead which remained for the rest of the game.

There were two moments in the second half where the lead was brought down to a six point differential, but Blue Jays never looked back. Fong was 100 percent on the day with her free throws, several of which came in the final minutes as F&M tried to turn things around.

The Saturday win vaulted the Jays into Sunday. Muhlenberg was also coming off a good game, having beaten Gettysburg the previous day, with the Mules being led by a 22-point performance from senior Sheila Cook.

Muhlenberg's lineup was able to outboard the Jays by a margin of eight rebounds, the difference coming on the defensive performance of each team. This took many second chances away from Hopkins.

On the average, the Muhlenberg squad was just a bit taller than the Jays, making it difficult to fight back against the number of rebounds being made against Hopkins. The biggest difference in Muhlenberg's play came internally.

The Mules's primary offensive threat, junior Alex Chili, played a different game than the previous matchups against Hopkins. Typically she led her team and was the chief threat of the offense, but on Sunday she distributed the ball out to her senior teammates Sheila Cook and Kelly McKeon. Those three players managed to neutralize the Jays and run an efficient offensive machine.

This game was a particularly difficult one for the Jays. They had already beaten the Mules twice this season, making the

Men's Lacrosse improves to 3-0 with home win vs. Siena



EDDIE WANG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomore Lee Coppersmith has played in all three of the Blue Jays' games to date, accumulating one goal on four shots. The men's lacrosse team won their third consecutive game by a wide-margin on Saturday, but await their toughest competition this weekend against Princeton at home. It will be the 81st meeting between the Blue Jays and Tigers. See Page B10 for full coverage.

third game even more difficult to pull off. It's fairly common for a good team to find a way to win by the third contest.

"It can be hard to beat a team three times in a season . . . especially when they know what to do to win against you by the third game," said senior Siobhan Callanan who assisted in analyzing and supplying information on Muhlenberg's Saturday game.

Callanan managed a significant injury earlier this season

and has been supporting her team from the sideline with a loud voice and fiery enthusiasm.

The loss did not prevent Hopkins from advancing to the NCAA tournament. Monday was bid day, and the Jays ended up getting placed for a Friday game against Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. With the playoffs on the horizon and the decisions on games being made, the team had some

SEE W. BASKETBALL, B11

INSIDE

Athlete of the Week:
Christina Valerio

NBA Trade Deadline:
Carmelo to New York

Senior women's track star Christina Valerio ran career bests in the 3000- and 5000-meter runs for a first place finish in each and give the Jays a conference championship. Page B11

The Eastern Conference got a little more interesting this past week when the New York Knicks wrestled Carmelo Anthony away from the Denver Nuggets. Page B10

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